



# Cabinet

**Date:** Tuesday, 30 July 2019  
**Time:** 10.00 am  
**Venue:** Committee Rooms A&B, South Walks House,  
Dorchester, DT1 1EE

**Membership: (Quorum 3)**

Spencer Flower (Chairman), Peter Wharf (Vice-Chairman), Tony Alford, Ray Bryan, Graham Carr-Jones, Tony Ferrari, Laura Miller, Andrew Parry, Gary Suttle and David Walsh

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**Chief Executive:** Matt Prosser, South Walks House, South Walks Road,  
Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1UZ (Sat Nav DT1 1EE)

**For more information about this agenda please telephone Democratic Services on 01305 or Kirsty Riglar, Democratic and Electoral Services Manager 01929 557221 - [kirsty.riglar@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:kirsty.riglar@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)**

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# **A G E N D A**

## **Page No.**

### **1 APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

### **2 MINUTES**

5 - 16

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2019.

### **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any declarations of interest.

### **4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

To receive questions or statements on the business of the committee from town and parish councils and members of the public.

### **5 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

To receive any questions from members in accordance with procedure rule 13.

### **6 FORWARD PLAN**

17 - 32

To consider the Cabinet Forward Plan.

### **7 QUARTER 1 BUDGET REPORT 2019/20**

33 - 44

To consider a report by the Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial and Assets.

### **8 LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN REDUCTION CASE FOR CHANGE**

45 - 56

To consider a report by the Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help.

<b>9</b>	<b>HOMES ENGLAND HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (HIF) GRANT DETERMINATION AGREEMENT FOR SUBMISSION - GILLINGHAM PRINCIPAL STREET</b>	<b>57 - 74</b>
	To consider a joint report by the Cabinet Member for Highways, Travel and Environment and the Cabinet Member for Housing.	
<b>10</b>	<b>CAPITAL FUNDING OPTION FOR THE WEST BAY COASTAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT</b>	<b>75 - 84</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>85 - 104</b>
	To consider a report by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health.	
<b>12</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES</b>	
	To consider the following recommendations from committees:	
<b>a</b>	<b>Somerley Household Recycling Centre - Hampshire County Council charges for Dorset residents</b>	<b>105 - 130</b>
	To consider a recommendation from the Place Scrutiny Committee held on 10 July 2019.	
<b>13</b>	<b>PANELS AND GROUPS</b>	
	To receive the following minutes and recommendations from panels, groups and boards:	
<b>a</b>	<b>Health and Wellbeing Board - 26 June 2019</b>	<b>131 - 138</b>
	Recommendation at minute 4 - Terms of Reference and Membership	
<b>b</b>	<b>Climate Change Executive Advisory Panel Update</b>	<b>-</b>
	To receive a verbal update from the Cabinet Member for Highways, Travel and Environment.	

## **14 URGENT ITEMS**

To consider any items of business which the Chairman has had prior notification and considers to be urgent pursuant to section 100B (4) b) of the Local Government Act 1972. The reason for the urgency shall be recorded in the minutes.



## DORSET COUNCIL - CABINET

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 25 JUNE 2019

**Present:** Cllrs Spencer Flower (Chairman), Peter Wharf (Vice-Chairman), Tony Alford, Ray Bryan, Graham Carr-Jones, Tony Ferrari, Laura Miller, Andrew Parry, Gary Suttle and David Walsh

**Also present:** Cllr Jon Andrews, Cllr Dave Bolwell, Cllr Simon Christopher, Cllr Susan Cocking, Cllr Brian Heatley, Cllr Nick Ireland, Cllr Molly Rennie, Cllr Jane Somper, Cllr David Tooke, Cllr Daryl Turner and Cllr John Worth

**Officers present (for all or part of the meeting):**

Matt Prosser (Chief Executive Designate), Aidan Dunn (Executive Director - Corporate Development S151), Mathew Kendall (Executive Director of People - Adults), Jonathan Mair (Corporate Director - Legal & Democratic Service Monitoring Officer), Sarah Parker (Executive Director of People - Children), John Sellgren (Executive Director, Place) and Kirsty Riglar (Democratic Services Manager)

In accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules of the Shadow Dorset Council, 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, **except in relation to the decision at minute 21 – Making of the Bere Regis Neighbourhood Plan – which took effect immediately.**

#### 12. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2019 were confirmed and signed, subject to the addition of the annexures referred to in minutes 4 and 11.

#### 13. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made at the meeting.

#### 14. Public Participation

The following public statements and questions were received at the meeting:

1. A question was received from Mr Stephen Godsall in relation to the Local Plan to the Cabinet Member for Planning. The question and answer provided are attached to these minutes as an annexure.

2. A public statement was received from Ms Irene Statham in relation to Climate Change. The statement is attached to these minutes as an annexure.

## 15. **Forward Plan**

The Committee received the latest Forward Plan, which included all scheduled decisions for the coming months. Further to the statement made by Ms Statham during public participation, the Chairman acknowledged that no mention of climate change was made in the Forward Plan but explained that this was a living document which would continue to be updated.

Noted

## 16. **Revenues and Benefits Policies and Schemes**

The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial and Assets proposing the adoption of the following discretionary policies and schemes to ensure that a consistent approach was applied to decision-making by the Revenues and Benefits Service across the Council's area. These were:

- a. Housing Benefit awarded in respect of those receiving a War Disablement or War Widows Pension
- b. Council Tax discount
- c. Business Rates Revaluation Relief
- d. Hardship Relief
- e. Discretionary Housing Payments.

Members were informed that the predecessor district/borough councils each had their own set of policies and schemes and this would enable a single set to be used consistently across the Council's area. The general approach had been to level these up and, in some cases, the proposals exceeded statutory requirements.

In response to a question, the Executive Director - Corporate Development (S151) explained that State Aid thresholds were set by the EU Commission in Euros and the information in paragraph 4.5 of the report was therefore correct.

Recommended

1. That Council agree, effective from 1 April 2019, that 100% of all income from War Disablement or War Widows Pension be disregarded when calculating entitlement to Housing Benefit in line with the resolution at Appendix A of the report.

Decisions

2. That the Council Tax Discretionary Discount Policy set out at Appendix B of the report be adopted.

3. That the Business Rates Revaluation Support Scheme set out at Appendix C of the report be adopted.

4. That any underspend in the government grant allocation of £243,000 be used to provide additional support for struggling businesses and that approval of such

cases be delegated to the Executive Director - Corporate Development (S151) after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial and Assets.

5. That the Hardship Relief Policy set out at Appendix D of the report be adopted.

6. That the Discretionary Housing Payments Policy set out at Appendix E of the report be adopted.

#### Reason for Decisions

To ensure that a consistent approach was taken in relation to the award of discretionary awards, discounts, payments and reliefs.

### **17. Equitable Contributions - Day Care & Transport**

The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health proposing the implementation of the charging policy for day care and transport with effect from 8 September 2019 to ensure that all payments made were equitable. Based upon the current cohort, the implementation of the policy would result in an increase in contributions for 112 people; 65 of whom were self-funders. A programme of engagement and communication of the changes was proposed and there would be direct contact with each service user affected – and their families – to offer support and guidance. It was reiterated that all contributions under the policy were based upon the ability of the service user to pay, following a new Financial Assessment to take account of any changes in circumstances and ensure that their income from benefits was maximised.

#### Decisions

1. That the current policy be fully implemented and that all service users be asked to contribute the full cost of putting in place the arrangements for meeting needs, based on their assessed income and savings.

2. That these changes take effect:

a. for transport provided from 8 September 2019, and

b. for the day care element, to be increased in two stages; 50% for care provided from 8 September, followed by full cost to be payable for care received from 6 October 2019 to provide some mitigation for the move towards the full assessed contribution for meeting care costs.

#### Reasons for Decisions

The policy with regards to full cost charging was previously agreed by the predecessor Dorset County Council. The proposed implementation date of 8 September 2019 gives enough time for appropriate communications and support for those that would be affected by the changes.

The stepped increase for day care contributions provides some mitigation for the move towards the full assessed contribution to meet care costs.

## 18. **Dorset Council Local Plan and Local Development Scheme**

The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Planning on the arrangements for the production of the new Dorset Council Local Plan and the Local Development Scheme. He reminded Members the Consequential Order for Dorset Council required the Council to produce and adopt a new local plan, reflecting the changed council geography, by April 2024. However, the Shadow Executive Committee had previously expressed a preference to adopt the plan by April 2023. Whilst this was a challenging timescale, it was considered to be achievable but would require a significant amount of officer capacity to achieve this. It was therefore proposed that, with the exception of the Purbeck plan which had reached examination, the reviews currently underway of the separate local plans be ceased. However, the work already done on these reviews be used where possible to shape the new Dorset Council Local Plan.

Particular attention was drawn to the need to continue the commitment to co-operation with neighbouring councils, as stated in the Statement of Common Ground that was jointly agreed by the predecessor councils and the value of the Dorset Strategic Planning Forum in enabling this.

The Cabinet Member also reported that he had established a cross-party executive advisory panel to provide strategic direction on the development of the new local Plan.

Members agreed that there was a need for climate change to be a consideration in the development of the new plan. Whilst acknowledging that there was no mention of this in the local plans adopted by the predecessor councils, it was reiterated that these remained extant and formed the statutory development plan for Dorset Council and would remain so until replaced by the new plan.

In response to a question, the Cabinet Member confirmed that adopted neighbourhood plans would continue to form part of the development plan documentation.

### Decisions

1. That Dorset Council progress with a Dorset Council Local Plan in line with the high-level project plan set out in the draft Local Development Scheme (Appendix 1 of the report) with the aim of adopting the plan by April 2023.
2. That the separate local plan reviews currently under way in the Dorset Council area, with the exception of the Purbeck plan which has reached examination, do not continue, but that all existing work carried out on these reviews be used where possible to shape the new Dorset Council Local Plan.
3. That the draft Local Development Scheme (Appendix 1 to the report) be approved as Dorset Council's current programme for plan preparation.

4. That the Council retains its commitment to cooperation with neighbouring councils on strategic planning matters, as expressed in the Statement of Common Ground approved by the predecessor councils.

#### Reason for Decisions

To ensure that work on the preparation of a new Dorset Council Local Plan could be progressed to enable adoption by April 2023.

### **19. Adoption of Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Waste Plan**

The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Planning proposing the adoption of the Waste Plan for the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and Dorset areas. The draft document was submitted to the Secretary of State in March 2018 and an independent examination into the Plan's soundness held in June 2018. The Inspector's report concluded that, subject to the inclusion of some modifications that did not significantly alter the thrust of the document, the Plan was legally compliant and sound. This now needed to be adopted by both Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council and would provide an up-to-date statutory planning framework for waste matters up to 2033 across the whole County. Particular attention was drawn to the significant amount of work and engagement which had gone into the development of this Plan.

Members welcomed the report and expressed their support for the Plan.

#### Recommended

That Council:

1. adopts the Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Waste Plan subject to the inclusion of the main modifications that are appended to the Inspector's Report;
2. confirms that the formal adoption date will begin two weeks from the date at which both BCP Council and Dorset Council have resolved to adopt the plan;
3. delegates to the Lead Member for Planning, after consultation with the Executive Director for Place:
  - a. any additional (non-material) modifications to the Plan which were the subject of consultation, together with any other additional modifications which benefit the clarity of the Plan;
  - b. authority to expedite any technical/procedural matters associated with adoption of the plan, including those connected with Dorset Council's role as the Competent Authority on matters relating the Habitats Regulations Assessment<sup>1</sup> of the Plan.

#### Reasons for Decisions

1. To ensure Dorset Council had an up-to-date statutory policy framework for considering planning applications for waste development.

2. To comply with the requirements of the statutory/consequential orders concerning Shaping Dorset Council which required a council-wide local plan by 2024.

## 20. **Making of Bere Regis Neighbourhood Plan**

The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Planning seeking approval to adopt the Bere Regis Neighbourhood Plan following a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum held on 2 May 2019. The turnout for this was 40.19% with 83% of electors voting in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan. Legislation required that more than 50% of the votes needed to be in favour of a plan for it to proceed further.

It was reported that the Council was required to make the Plan within eight weeks of the referendum. The deadline for doing so was therefore 27 June 2019 and an exemption was agreed by Cllr Daryl Turner as the Chairman for the Place Scrutiny Committee to waive the overview and scrutiny procedure rules which provided for a call-in period of five working days to pass following the publication of the decision of the Cabinet before it could be implemented.

The Members for the West Purbeck Ward, Cllrs Wharf and Miller, expressed their support for the adoption of the Bere Regis Neighbourhood Plan, outlining the significant amount of engagement with local residents through consultations and public meetings. They also paid tribute to Frances Summers, Senior Planning Policy Officer, for all of her input to the development of the Plan. It was also noted that the lessons learned by Bere Regis were proving to be very helpful to inform the development of neighbourhood plans elsewhere.

### Decisions

1. That the making of the Bere Regis Neighbourhood Plan would not breach and is compatible with EU and human rights obligations.
2. That the Bere Regis Neighbourhood Plan as submitted to and approved by referendum be made under section 38A(4) of the 2004 Act.
3. That with the agreement of Bere Regis Parish Council the Bere Regis Neighbourhood Plan as made be modified by:
  - a. the replacement of the wording of Policy BR6 with that recommended by the examiner and approved by Purbeck District Council on 19 March 2019; and
  - b. the deletion of the proposed SANG from Map 5, as recommended by the examiner and approved by Purbeck District Council on 19 March 2019 (the extent of the SANG is shown elsewhere in the plan);on the basis that such modifications do not materially affect the policies in the plan or are correcting errors of a type contemplated by section 61M(4) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

### Reason for Decisions

National Planning Practice Guidance, Paragraph 641, states 'if the majority of those who vote in a referendum are in favour of the draft neighbourhood plan or Order (or, where there is also a business referendum, a majority vote in favour of both referendums), then the neighbourhood plan or Order must be made by the local planning authority within 8 weeks of the referendum'.

#### 21. **Milborne St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan 2018 to 2033 - Independent Examiner's Report and progress to Referendum**

The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Planning on the Milborne St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan following independent examination seeking approval to proceed to referendum on the basis that it met the basic conditions, was compatible with the Convention rights, and complied with the definition of a neighbourhood development plan. He explained that, if agreed, it was proposed that the referendum be held during August.

### Decisions

1. That the Milborne St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan 2018 to 2033, as modified (Appendix B to the report), proceed to referendum.
2. That a recommendation to make the Milborne St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan 2018 to 2033 be made to the next Cabinet meeting after the referendum if the result of the referendum is in support of making the plan and there are no other issues identified that would go against such a decision.

### Reason for Decisions

To progress the Milborne St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan to referendum so that pending a favourable vote, the plan could be made part of the Development Plan for the Milborne St Andrew Neighbourhood Area.

#### 22. **Broadwindsor Neighbourhood Plan - Independent Examiners Report**

The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Planning following the independent examination of the Broadwindsor Neighbourhood Plan and seeking approval for the plan, as modified, to proceed to referendum on the basis that it met the basic conditions, was compatible with the Convention rights, and complied with the definition of a neighbourhood development plan.

### Decisions

1. That the Broadwindsor Neighbourhood Plan, as modified by the recommendations in the examiner's report (Appendix A of the report), proceed to referendum.
2. That a recommendation to make the Broadwindsor Neighbourhood Plan part of the Development Plan be made to the next Cabinet meeting after the referendum,

if the result of the referendum is in support of making the plan and there are no other issues identified that would go against such a decision.

#### Reason for Decisions

To progress the Broadwindsor Neighbourhood Plan to referendum so that pending a favourable vote, the plan could be made part of the Development Plan for the Broadwindsor Neighbourhood Area.

#### **23. Urgent items**

There were no urgent items considered at the meeting.

#### **24. Questions from Members**

The following questions from members were received at the meeting in accordance with procedure rule 13:

- a. Statement from Cllr David Tooke regarding agenda item 8 – Dorset Local Plan; and
- b. Question from Cllr Susan Cocking to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health regarding agenda item 7 - Equitable Contributions Day Care and Transport.

The questions and answers are set out in the annexure to these minutes.

## **ANNEXURE**

### **Agenda item 4 – Public Participation**

#### **Public Question from Mr Stephen Godsall, Resident of Alderholt, to the Cabinet Member for Planning regarding agenda item 8 relating to the Local Plan**

I am here representing the group Action for Alderholt. We welcome the Council's Climate Emergency resolution; this issue certainly requires urgent and radical action. We appreciate you face challenges in preparing a Local Plan which meets government targets for housing land; wherever you consider house building there are likely to be residents groups pointing out problems with local services and roads. I'd like to make clear that our group supports proportionate and sustainable development and there are already planning approvals to increase the size of our village by over 10%.

Spatial planning has an essential role in limiting greenhouse emissions. Building in places where people need to travel by car to work and to services is not the future; even switching to electric cars only reduces life-cycle emissions of greenhouse gases by around 30% compared to petrol. Local planning policies all talk about more travel by public transport, walking and cycling. Unfortunately our village of Alderholt has no public transport suitable for working people and no practical access to employment by walking or cycling. There are only a few dozen jobs in the village and most of our commuters travel over 20km to work. They travel east, west, north and south so an efficient public transport solution is very unlikely.

The majority of our upper school children must travel for 80 to 100 minutes each day to Queen Elizabeth School in Wimborne. What a waste of 8 hours a week when they could be learning, exercising or developing their interests. And yet East Dorset's local plan proposals allocated land for 1000-2500 new homes in the village, completely changing its character, with absolutely no provision for local employment. This option raised objections from Dorset and Hampshire highways, English Nature, New Forest National Park, local Parish Councils and many others. So when reviewing the local plan options we trust that you will reject large scale development in Alderholt. We can no longer afford to build dormitory settlements that rely on burning fossil fuels.

How will the Council's decision to declare a Climate Emergency affect spatial planning policy, and in particular will development now be located where there is good access to employment and services?

#### **Answer**

The purpose of the planning system is to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development. National planning policy includes principles such as promoting sustainable transport, making effective use of land, and meeting the challenge of climate change.

Spatial planning is one of the areas where the council can have an impact on climate change, through decisions about the location of development, sustainable

transport options and energy efficiency of buildings. This will be one of the considerations for the newly formed climate change executive advisory panel that has been set up as a result of the declaration of a climate emergency.

As part of the preparation of the new Dorset Council Local Plan, the council will need to set policy objectives to cover the whole Dorset Council area, and will need to consider the most appropriate strategy for the distribution of development across the area. This will include reassessing the sites that have previously been looked at, to make sure that we are choosing the most sustainable options, when considered in the wider context of the whole Dorset Council area.

The Council does however have significant housing requirements to meet and a wide range of environmental and infrastructure constraints limiting our choices, so this will be a challenging task.

**Statement from Ms Irene Statham, resident of Dorchester, in relation to Climate Change**

I would like to congratulate Dorset Council on passing the motion declaring a climate emergency at the first full council meeting on May 16th.

Some of the implications of passing this motion became clear to me when reading the copy of "Dorset Council News" last week. A third of a column was devoted to the climate emergency and it talks about developing "a programme that puts sustainability at the heart of our organisation". However, I was unable to find any reference to climate change under any other heading, including extensive sections on the local plan, housing, highways and employment.

Clearly it is early days.

I understand that cabinet members and their portfolios were decided before the motion was passed. But in the light of the declaration of the climate emergency I would suggest that there should be an explicit portfolio for "climate and ecological emergency" so that there is a voice in cabinet ensuring that all cabinet decisions are examined from this point of view. I would further suggest that merely adding it to the already substantial portfolio of 'Highways, Transport and Environment' would be an inadequate measure.

Today the Forward Plan is being considered and I cannot spot any reference to Climate Change, let alone to the Climate Emergency. This is the level of scrutiny that a cabinet member with an explicit portfolio could offer.

## **Agenda item 13 – Questions from Members**

### **Question from Cllr Susan Cocking to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health in relation to Equitable Contributions**

On page 6 of the report it has quoted that those affected the figures show Weymouth and Portland as one total amount. As a Councillor for Portland I would like to know, how many people in Portland are affected and why was this done in the first place, we don't even have the same postcode? It may have been done as Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, however it is vital that us as councillors need to know of any changes that will impact the people we represent.

1. How many people in Portland are affected by these changes?
2. As one of the most deprived areas in the country, what extra help and assistance is given to those who are the most vulnerable in our society?

### **Answer**

The geographical area referred to in the report relate to the Adult Social Care Locality Team which manages the case. Of the people who receive services within the Weymouth and Portland Locality Team, 2 of these have a Portland address. As set out in the report, if the changes are agreed, we will be making contact with both individuals to discuss the impact for them, and ensure that their financial assessment takes account of their current circumstances, so they do not experience financial hardship. The phased implementation set out in the report will also help individuals to manage the impact of the changes.

All individuals' contributions are capped by their financially assessed ability to pay.

### **Member Statement from Cllr David Tooke, Local Member for Cranborne and Alderholt, regarding agenda item 8 relating to the Dorset Council Local Plan**

One of the Key Decisions you are considering today is whether to continue with the multiple Draft Local Plans and Options drawn up by predecessor bodies, or to develop a unified Dorset Council wide plan.

I would draw your attention to some of the excellent principles that underlay the old East Dorset Options Consultation document.

This provided seven clear objectives which I believe, if properly adhered to in the plan then developed would lead to a strong and generally accepted way forward. Of these Seven Objectives some are very relevant to the new Dorset Council area, and could be very simply adapted.

Objective 1 - To manage and safeguard the natural environment of (East) Dorset

Objective 2 - To maintain and improve the character of the towns and villages, and to create vibrant local centres

Objective 3 - To adapt to the challenges of Climate Change

This Objective calls for reducing the impact of **carbon emissions from transport** by more sustainable patterns of development in accessible locations. This

Objective becomes even more significant in view of our declaration of a Climate Emergency.

Objective 4 - To enable the mixed economy of (East) Dorset to grow, and to develop new employment sectors – and should relate to the work of the LEP.

Objective 5 - Which states that: Sufficient housing will be provided to **address local needs**, whilst **maintaining the character of local communities**.

Objective 6 - To reduce the need for people to travel and to have more travel choices

**This is one of the key Objectives and is crucial to the ability of the eventual Plan to meet most of the other Objectives.**

It states, specifically:

Development will be located in **the most accessible locations**, focused on prime transport corridors and town centres. **New residential development will be located either close to existing facilities, or where good transport links exist to such facilities.**

It is supported in the Vision Statement which says:

**Development will be focused on locations accessible by different modes of transport and along the main transport corridors, bus routes and town centres. Transport corridors along the A347, A348, B3073, B3072 and B3074 will be enhanced to promote a wider choice of transport.**

Objective 7 - To help our communities to thrive and help people support each other.

Unfortunately when it came to the Site Allocations section, three of these excellent Objectives seem to have been ignored – Objectives 3, 5 and 6.

The options Consultation sought to put at least 40% of the required development for East Dorset in a village on the edge of the Council Area, which is remote from employment, has no public transport suitable for commuters, is nowhere near any of the main transport corridors and where most households are forced to maintain two cars. Clearly this conflicts with Objectives 3 and 6, and the volume of housing suggested is very much more than is required for Local needs, and would dramatically change the character of the Local Community, violating Objective 5.

I would urge Cabinet to accept all or most of the Objectives contained in the document, and ensure they are properly applied within a new Dorset wide Local Plan.

**Duration of meeting:** 10.00 - 10.58 am

**Chairman**

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**DRAFT Cabinet Forward Plan - September 2019**  
**For the period 3 SEPTEMBER 2019 to 30 JUNE 2020**  
**(publication date – 5 AUGUST 2019)**

**Explanatory Note:**

This Forward Plan contains future items to be considered by the Cabinet and Council. It is published 28 days before the next meeting of the Committee. The plan includes items for the meeting including key decisions. Each item shows if it is 'open' to the public or to be considered in a private part of the meeting.

**Definition of Key Decisions**

Key decisions are defined in Dorset Council's Constitution as decisions of the Cabinet which are likely to -

- (a) to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates (**Thresholds - £500k**); or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the relevant local authority."

14 determining the meaning of "*significant*" for these purposes the Council will have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 9Q of the Local Government Act 2000 Act. Officers will consult with lead members to determine significance and sensitivity.

**Private/Exempt Items for Decision**

Each item in the plan above marked as 'private' will refer to one of the following paragraphs.

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the shadow council proposes:-
  - (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
  - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Forward Plan</b>  Key Decision - <b>No</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	3 Sep 2019	<u>Consultees:</u> Members Officers  <u>Means of Consultation:</u> Meetings	None	Lead member - Leader of the Council  <i>Lead officer - Lee Gallagher, Democratic Services Manager  lee.gallagher@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Climate Change Executive Advisory Panel Update</b>  Key Decision - <b>No</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	3 Sep 2019	<u>Consultees:</u> Cabinet Member Officers Executive Advisory Panel Expert contributors Public  <u>Means of Consultation:</u> Meetings Correspondence	Minutes from meetings	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Highways, Travel and Environment  <i>Lead officer - Karyn Punchard, Corporate Director of Place Services  karyn.punchard@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Superfast Broadband - To invest funds, made up from grant from the Department of Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and contract outturns</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Part exempt</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	3 Sep 2019	<u>Consultees:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local and national broadband providers</li> <li>DEFRA</li> <li>Broadband Delivery UK</li> <li>Superfast Programme Board and Team</li> </ul> <u>Means of Consultation:</u> Email, telephone, structured discussions, formal open market review.	Outline Business Case	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Skills  <i>Lead officer - Aidan Dunn, Executive Director - Corporate Development S151  aidan.dunn@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Statement of Accounts and Outturn 2018/19</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	3 Sep 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial and Assets  <i>Lead officer - Aidan Dunn, Executive Director - Corporate Development S151</i> <i>aidan.dunn@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Children's Residential Provision</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	3 Sep 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help  <i>Lead officer - Sarah Parker, Executive Director of People - Children</i> <i>sarah.parker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Children's Safeguarding Annual Report</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	3 Sep 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help  <i>Lead officer - Sarah Parker, Executive Director of People - Children</i> <i>sarah.parker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Internal Audit Plan (via Audit and Governance Committee)</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	3 Sep 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Leader of the Council  <i>Lead officer - Aidan Dunn, Executive Director - Corporate Development S151            aidan.dunn@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Looked After Children Reduction Strategy</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	3 Sep 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help  <i>Lead officer - Mary Taylor, Acting Assistant Director for Care and Protection            mary.taylor@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Internal Audit Annual Report (via Audit and Governance Committee)</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	3 Sep 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Leader of the Council  <i>Lead officer - Aidan Dunn, Executive Director - Corporate Development S151            aidan.dunn@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Adult Safeguarding Annual Report</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	3 Sep 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health  <i>Lead officer - Mathew Kendall, Executive Director of People - Adults</i> <i>mathew.kendall@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Council Tax Subsidy for Care Leavers</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>  Do consider the Council providing a council tax subsidy for young people who have been in the care of the Council. The Council has corporate parenting responsibilities for care leavers which include supporting their successful transition into adulthood and ensuring that they have suitable accommodation. To provide a subsidy would improve the local offer for care leavers and support their move to independence, while also ensuring that they feel part of the "family" of the Council.	Dorset Council - Cabinet	1 Oct 2019	<u>Consultees:</u> Lead officers Members  <u>Means of Consultation:</u> Meetings Discussion Email	DfE Guidance - Applying corporate parenting principles to looked-after children and care leavers	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help, Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial and Assets  <i>Lead officer - Aidan Dunn, Executive Director - Corporate Development S151</i> <i>aidan.dunn@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Adoption of the Dorset and BCP Mineral Sites Plan</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet  Dorset Council	1 Oct 2019  17 Oct 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	Dorset and BCP Mineral Sites Plan	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Planning  <i>Lead officer - John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place jsellgren@dorset.gov.uk</i>
<b>Children's Services - 0-5 Year Provision - Review</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	1 Oct 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help  <i>Lead officer - Claire Shiels, Assistant Director for Commisioning and Partnerships c.shiels@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Draft Corporate Business Plan</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	1 Oct 2019	<u>Consultees:</u> The draft has been produced following engagement with the Corporate Leadership Team, Transformation Board, informal Cabinet and Portfolio Holders.  There will be a public conversation/consultation October-December 2019  <u>Means of Consultation:</u> CLT, Transformation Board and informal Cabinet meetings, and meetings with leading members.	None	Lead member - Deputy Leader - Corporate Development and Change, Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial and Assets  <i>Lead officer - Matt Prosser, Chief Executive Designate matt.prosser@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Youth Justice Plan</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet  Dorset Council	1 Oct 2019  21 Nov 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help  <i>Lead officer - Sarah Parker, Executive Director of People - Children            sarah.parker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Unreasonable Complaints Policy</b>  Key Decision - <b>No</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	1 Oct 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Customer, Community and Regulatory Services  <i>Lead officer - Jonathan Mair, Corporate Director - Legal &amp; Democratic Service            Monitoring Officer            jonathan.mair@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Making of Wareham Neighbourhood Plan</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	1 Oct 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Planning  <i>Lead officer - John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place            jsellgren@dorset.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Equalities Policy</b>  Key Decision - <b>No</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	1 Oct 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Leader of the Council  <i>Lead officer - Aidan Dunn, Executive Director - Corporate Development S151</i> <i>aidan.dunn@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Adult Social Care - Direct Payments</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	1 Oct 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health  <i>Lead officer - Mathew Kendall, Executive Director of People - Adults</i> <i>mathew.kendall@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Care Village development on Dorset Council-owned land in Wareham</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Fully exempt</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	1 Oct 2019	<u>Consultees:</u> Regular Engagement with Wareham Town Council.  Through a wider event, key stakeholder engaged:  Dorset Council Cabinet and Ward Members, Adult Social Care staff, Dorset Healthcare, CCG, Friends of Wareham Hospital, Focus nursery, GP practice, Purbeck School, Wareham Neighbourhood plan steering group, select residents  Through consultation on the Relocatable in Wareham, the public	Cabinet report and appendices	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health  <i>Lead officer - Mathew Kendall, Executive Director of People - Adults</i> <i>mathew.kendall@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
			<p>were engaged with about future Wareham gateway plans.</p> <p>Further engagement events to be planned ahead of drafting of the business case.</p> <p><u>Means of Consultation:</u> Workshops, and project group meetings</p>		
<b>Calendar of Meetings</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council	17 Oct 2019	<p><u>Consultees:</u></p> <p><u>Means of Consultation:</u></p>		Lead member - Leader of the Council  <i>Lead officer - Jonathan Mair, Corporate Director - Legal &amp; Democratic Service Monitoring Officer jonathan.mair@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Fundamental Review of Appointments of Members to Outside Bodies and other Significant Bodies</b>  Key Decision - <b>No</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council	17 Oct 2019	<p><u>Consultees:</u> Cabinet members Local members Senior Leadership Team Officers Outside bodies</p> <p><u>Means of Consultation:</u> Email Survey Correspondence</p>	Council report - May 2019	Lead member - Leader of the Council  <i>Lead officer - Jonathan Mair, Corporate Director - Legal &amp; Democratic Service Monitoring Officer jonathan.mair@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Designating an area of the Melcombe Regis for Selective Licensing - Housing Act 2004</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	5 Nov 2019	<u>Consultees:</u> Public consultation period concluded April 2019 Key partner agencies from the Melcombe Regis Board involved in the proposal  <u>Means of Consultation:</u> Report to Scrutiny Committee On-line public Consultation Meetings / Discussions	Previous reports to W&PBC Previous reports to MR Board Consultation documents and Reports Various technical papers	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Housing  <i>Lead officer - John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place jsellgren@dorset.gov.uk</i>
<b>Quarter 2 - Budget Update</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	5 Nov 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial and Assets  <i>Lead officer - Aidan Dunn, Executive Director - Corporate Development S151 aidan.dunn@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Children's Services - High Needs Block Reduction Strategy</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	5 Nov 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help  <i>Lead officer - Sarah Parker, Executive Director of People - Children sarah.parker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Community Safety Plan (via Place Scrutiny Committee)</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet  Dorset Council	5 Nov 2019  21 Nov 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Housing  <i>Lead officer - Andy Frost, Community Safety and Drug Action Manager            andy.frost@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Substance Misuse Strategy (via Place Scrutiny Committee)</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet  Dorset Council	5 Nov 2019  21 Nov 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Housing  <i>Lead officer - Andy Frost, Community Safety and Drug Action Manager            andy.frost@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Reducing Reoffending Strategy (via Place Scrutiny Committee)</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet  Dorset Council	5 Nov 2019  21 Nov 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Housing  <i>Lead officer - Andy Frost, Community Safety and Drug Action Manager            andy.frost@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>School Admissions Policy</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	5 Nov 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help  <i>Lead officer - Sarah Parker, Executive Director of People - Children            sarah.parker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Budget (MTFP/Council tax/Capital Programme/Treasury Mgt Strategy)</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet  Dorset Council - Cabinet  Dorset Council	10 Dec 2019  28 Jan 2020  13 Feb 2020	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>		Lead member - Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial and Assets  <i>Lead officer - Aidan Dunn, Executive Director - Corporate Development S151</i> <i>aidan.dunn@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Major Waste Disposal Contracts following competitive tender process</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Fully exempt</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	10 Dec 2019	<u>Consultees:</u> Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee Dorset Council Procure to Pay Dorset Council Internal & External Legal Advice  <u>Means of Consultation:</u> Joint Committee report in January 2018 and regular updates with the Chairman of the Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee. Legal and Procurement support throughout drafting of documents.	Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee minutes - 15 January 2018 (minutes 10 and 11)	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Customer, Community and Regulatory Services  <i>Lead officer - Karyn Punchard, Corporate Director of Place Services</i> <i>karyn.punchard@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Dorset Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	10 Dec 2019	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health  <i>Lead officer - Sam Crowe, Acting Director of Public Health</i> <i>s.crowe@dorsetcc.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Endorsement of the Dorset &amp; East Devon Coast World Heritage Site Partnership Plan</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	10 Dec 2019	<u>Consultees:</u> Multiple partner organisations with responsibility for management of the coast  <u>Means of Consultation:</u> Stakeholder engagement and formal consultation on the draft plan	Dorset & East Devon Coast World Heritage Site Partnership Plan	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Highways, Travel and Environment  <i>Lead officer - Ken Buchan, Coast &amp; Countryside Service Manager            ken.buchan@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Pay Policy Statement</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Part exempt</b>	Dorset Council	13 Feb 2020	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Deputy Leader - Corporate Development and Change  <i>Lead officer - Aidan Dunn, Executive Director - Corporate Development S151            aidan.dunn@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Housing Allocations Policy</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	7 Apr 2020	<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Housing  <i>Lead officer - Mathew Kendall, Executive Director of People - Adults            mathew.kendall@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Constitution Review</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet	5 May 2020	<u>Consultees:</u> Members Officers Service areas  <u>Means of Consultation:</u> Meetings Consultation Correspondence	Dorset Council Constitution (approved in February 2019)	Lead member - Leader of the Council  <i>Lead officer - Jonathan Mair, Corporate Director - Legal &amp; Democratic Service Monitoring Officer jonathan.mair@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
<b>Area Neighbourhood Plan - Independent Examiners Report and progress to Referendum</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet		<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Planning  <i>Lead officer - John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place jsellgren@dorset.gov.uk</i>
<b>Car Parking Charges and Tariffs</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet		<u>Consultees:</u> Parking Managers Budget Working Group (December 2018)  <u>Means of Consultation:</u> Meeting	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Highways, Travel and Environment  <i>Lead officer - John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place jsellgren@dorset.gov.uk</i>
<b>Making of Arne Neighbourhood Plan</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet		<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Housing  <i>Lead officer - John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place jsellgren@dorset.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<b>Wool Neighbourhood Plan - Independent Examiner report and progress to Referendum</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet		<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Planning  <i>Lead officer - John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place jsellgren@dorset.gov.uk</i>
<b>Making of Wool Neighbourhood Plan</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet		<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Planning  <i>Lead officer - John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place jsellgren@dorset.gov.uk</i>
<b>Submit Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD to Secretary of State</b>  Key Decision - <b>Yes</b> Public Access - <b>Open</b>	Dorset Council - Cabinet		<u>Consultees:</u>  <u>Means of Consultation:</u>	None	Lead member - Cabinet Member for Planning  <i>Lead officer - John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place jsellgren@dorset.gov.uk</i>

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**Dorset**  
Council

**Cabinet**

Qtr 1 budget report

Date of Meeting: 30 July 2019

Lead Member: Cllr Tony Ferrari – Lead Member for finance, commercial and assets

Local Member(s): N/A

Lead Officer: Aidan Dunn

## **Executive Summary:**

This report updates Cabinet on Dorset Council's financial performance, position and forecasts at the end of the first quarter of the new financial year.

Initial analysis of the expenditure information for the first three months of the year suggests that Dorset Council is currently forecasting a year end overspend of £7.1M on its directly controlled budgets, and up to £5.5M on funding for schools and education.

If necessary, the risk associated with this overspend can be funded by general reserves held by Dorset Council without exposing the Council to unnecessary financial risk. These general reserves have increased following the closure of the accounts from the predecessor authorities and are now higher than when the budget was agreed in February 2019.

Clearly reserves can only be spent once, and a continued overspend into 2020/21 is not sustainable. The following work is underway to address the forecast overspend:

- a) completion of the new staffing structures to achieve the planned savings identified by bringing the councils together;
- b) as the newly appointed finance team takes shape, a focus on review the budget, income and expenditure to identify further savings through the harmonisation process;
- c) implementation of the Children's and Adults services' improvement plans to improve services whilst reducing costs;
- d) continued focus on developing an organisation-wide transformation plan for 2020-24.

## **Equalities Impact Assessment:**

This report does not deal with any new strategy or policy issues that would trigger the need for an impact assessment.

**Budget:**

Financial information is set out in this report.

**Risk Assessment:**

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: HIGH

Residual Risk: HIGH

There is material risk around some of the savings plans incorporated into the 2019/20 budget, especially concerning activities driving spend in Children's Services, Adult Services social care budgets and the High Needs Block (HNB) of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

There is less (and reducing) risk around convergence savings being delivered from reorganisation.

**Climate implications:**

N/A

**Other Implications:****Recommendation:**

Cabinet is asked to:

1. Note the Senior Leadership Team's forecast for Dorset Council's position at the end of quarter 1;
2. Note the context around the budget that was set for the year;
3. Comment on the actions/proposals to improve the position during the year;
4. Consider further actions needed to bring down spend during the year;
5. Note the impact that any overspend will have on reserves and the general fund;
6. Note the work going into reviewing Dorset Council's reserves and balances;
7. Note the approach to work to develop sustainability of the base budget position for 2020/21 and beyond;
8. Note and comment on the work going on around capital strategy and the capital programme and financing.

**Reason for Recommendation:**

Cabinet needs to consider the forecast position and risks potentially impacting over the remainder of the year. Support and/or challenge is needed for actions being taken in 2019/20 to balance the budget and consider the adequacy and use of reserves and to support transition and convergence.

2019/20 is a critical year for establishing the base budget for Dorset Council to enable an accurate, medium-term financial plan to be delivered alongside a longer-term, sustainable financial strategy.

**Appendices:**

None

**Background Papers:**

Budget paper 2019/20 approved by Shadow Council 20 Feb 2019

**Officer Contact:**

Name: Jim McManus

Tel: 01305 221235

Email: [jim.mcmanus@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jim.mcmanus@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Dorset Council's budget for 2019/20 was approved by the Shadow Council on 20 February 2019. It was built using the base budgets of the six predecessor councils and incorporated targets for staff savings and efficiencies from "de-duplication" where this could be identified. The level of the general fund reserve was set at £25.5m, safely above the £14.5m minimum recommended by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).
- 1.2 The council plans to use 2019/20 as a transitional year of consolidation to release the savings from bringing the councils together, whilst developing medium and long-term service and financial plans for the future. The money identified to be released through the consolidation has been reinvested in front line service budgets.
- 1.3 Since 1 April, officers have been working to consolidate the predecessor councils' budgets and simplify them, to reflect the evolving structures of Dorset Council. This work will take some time to complete, but progress is being made and savings are accruing as we rebase the 2019/20 budget.

## 2. Outturn and the starting position

- 2.1 The outturn position for 2018/19 was positive with all six councils performing well against their revenue budgets. This means that the general fund reserve increased to approximately £29M (subject to disaggregation). This improvement gives some headroom to enable officers time to review the inherited budgets and spend, whilst coming to terms with the continuing growth - in particular in Children's Services spend.
- 2.2 There are other earmarked reserves that the council can use to support service delivery during the year. These were noted as being adequate in the

budget report. Officers are currently carrying out a review of *all* reserves to determine if they are still required for the purposes required.

### **3. Further budget context**

- 3.1 2019/20 was always going to be an extremely challenging year to develop anything other than a single-year budget. It is the final year of four that were included in a longer-term funding settlement offered by Government following the last Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR2015).
- 3.2 It is still Government's aim to continue with longer-term funding arrangements to give councils greater planning certainty but since June 2016, a significant amount of parliamentary time has been consumed by arrangements for leaving the European Union. This means the quantum of funding available for public spending remains unclear and Government is not yet able to give us certainty over longer-term funding options.
- 3.3 The 2019-20 budget was set prudently and included the most accurate data available at the time. Despite this, the budget report still acknowledged that there were risks and pressures; most notably in Children's Services where a national picture of escalating demand is being replicated in Dorset. This is evident not just across social care budgets but also in the High Needs Block (HNB) of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).
- 3.4 Additional funding was made available in the 2019/20 budget, especially for Children's Services but even at that time it was noted that there were further budget pressures building in the system. A base budget review was therefore recommended, and this is being progressed as part of the "baseline" work currently in progress with newly appointed managers. Further funding was also included in contingency and the forecast shows that a portion of this is currently not committed (£2.5m) and is available to support the areas experiencing most pressure.

### **4. Action in the current year**

- 4.1 A review of reserves is under way. All six predecessor councils did this regularly, so it is consistent with previous approaches and is good practice. The purpose is to ensure all reserves are still required for their original purposes and where they are not, the reserve can be either re-purposed or released to the general fund.
- 4.2 In setting a budget for a single year, it was clear that a strategy for delivering longer-term financial stability and sustainability would need to be developed. There is more information on the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) later in this report. However, against the context set out above and given that transition to a single council had to be done within 13 months, 2019/20 was identified as a transitional year. Within these constraints the council set the best budget it could, building-in contingency to support risks and reviewing reserves and balances to support in-year transition costs while going through a proper process to design and build a modern, efficient council for the residents of Dorset.
- 4.3 Within this turbulent and dynamic local context of reform and modernisation, and against the national backdrop of increasing demand and cost pressures it is inevitable that this first year will be challenging. Some of that challenge is

emerging and is reported in the numbers and narrative below. But work continues to converge, streamline and modernise the organisation.

- 4.4 It is right that the council pursues the convergence savings; they are essential in continuing to deliver resources to front line services. We aim to save £5.2m in 2019/20 and £10m in a full-year this way – and we are making good progress. We also need to remove duplication, build on our digital work to date and ensure the work to baseline our budgets this year gives us adequate resources for the services needed for Dorset's residents.

## 5. Forecast v budget

- 5.1 At the end of quarter 1, the council is forecasting an overall overspend of £7.1m excluding the DSG budgets. There are some key reasons for this which are set out in the analysis and narrative below; the narrative covers material areas only.

Directorate	Net Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast (Overspend)/ Underspend	
	£k	£k	£k	%
People - Adults	111,918	114,341	(2,422)	(2.16%)
People - Children's	65,815	72,727	(6,912)	(10.50%)
Place	70,285	70,631	(346)	(0.49%)
Corporate Development	23,532	23,879	(347)	(1.47%)
Legal & Democratic	7,204	7,246	(42)	(0.58%)
Insight & Corporate Communications	5,319	5,129	190	3.58%
Public Health	0	0	0	0.00%
Total Service Budgets	284,073	293,952	(9,879)	(3.48%)
Central Finance	(283,863)	(286,638)	2,775	(0.98%)
Whole Authority	209	7,313	(7,104)	

## 6. Analysis by Directorate

### People Services – Adults & Housing

Executive Director Mathew Kendall; Cabinet Members Laura Miller, Graham Carr-Jones

- 6.1 The People Services - Adults budget is projected to overspend by £2.4m (2.16%).

People Services - Adults	Net Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast (Overspend)/ Underspend	
	£k	£k	£k	%
Adult Care Packages	87,730	89,751	(2,021)	(2.30%)
Adult Care	15,205	15,413	(208)	(1.37%)
Commissioning	5,344	5,904	(561)	(10.49%)
Director's Office	622	637	(15)	(2.41%)
Housing Services	3,018	2,635	383	12.69%
Total Directorate Budget	111,918	114,341	(2,422)	(2.16%)

- 6.2 Adult Social Care Packages are currently forecast to be overspent by £2m (2.3%). £825k of this is due to movements since the service budgets were disaggregated a year ago. There is also additional base budget pressure of

£500k. The remaining overspend reflects an increase in Residential, Supported Living and Direct Payment spend.

- 6.3 The Adult Care budget is currently forecast to overspend by £208k (1.37%), principally on staff budgets. Establishment control measures are in place to reduce this overspend as the year progresses.
- 6.4 The Commissioning area is forecast to overspend by £561k (10.49%). The majority of this is driven by the increased projections on the Integrated Community Equipment Store (ICES) pooled budget and the Dorset Accessible Homes Service (DAHS) contract. There are also some residual pressures to manage from budget disaggregation.
- 6.5 Housing Services are forecasting an underspend of £383k due to vacancies and lower than expected use of B&B accommodation. Detailed work is currently taking place to review and rationalise these budgets.
- 6.6 The overall savings target for the Directorate for 2019-20 is £5.1m. Of this, £2.3m has already been achieved and the forecast assumes that the plans in place for the remaining £2.8m will be successful. These are reviewed at the monthly Cost Reduction Board.

#### People Services – Children

##### Executive Director Sarah Parker; Cabinet Member Andrew Parry

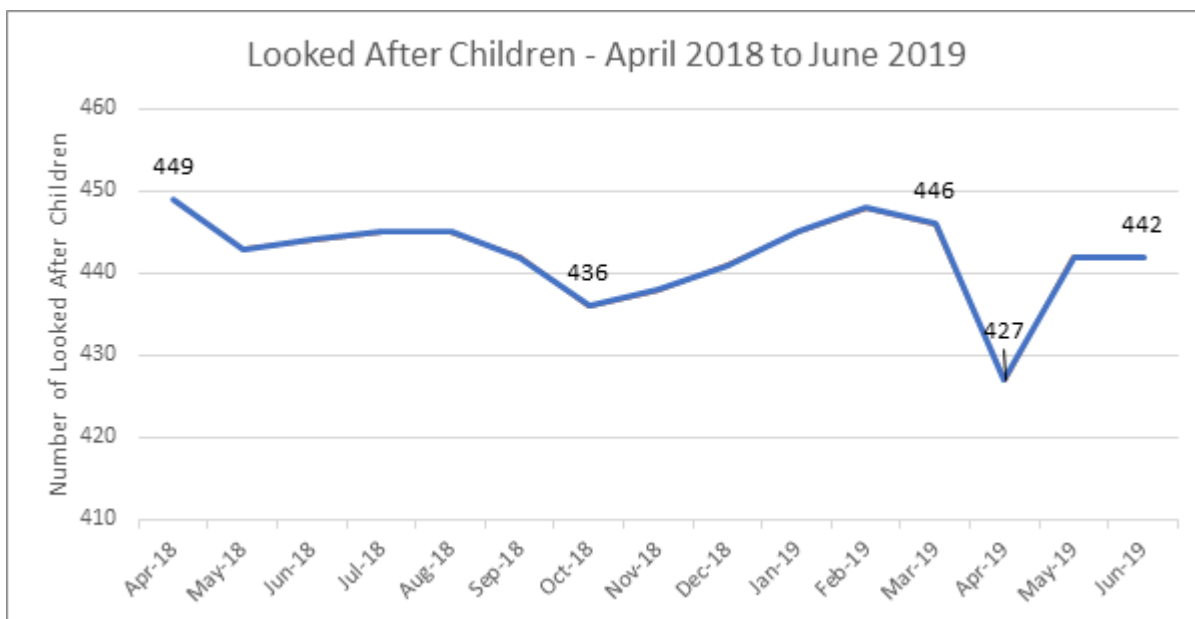
- 6.7 The People – Children’s Services revenue budget is projected to overspend by £6.9m (10.5%). The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is forecast to overspend by £5.5m.

<b>People Services - Children</b>	<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Forecast (Overspend)/</b>	
	<b>£k</b>	<b>Outturn</b>	<b>Underspend</b>	<b>%</b>
Care and Protection	40,445	45,991	(5,545)	(13.71%)
Commissioning and Partnerships	9,192	9,091	101	1.10%
Director's Services	3,469	4,276	(807)	(23.26%)
Education and Learning	12,708	13,369	(661)	(5.21%)
<b>Total Directorate Budget</b>	<b>65,815</b>	<b>72,727</b>	<b>(6,912)</b>	<b>(10.50%)</b>

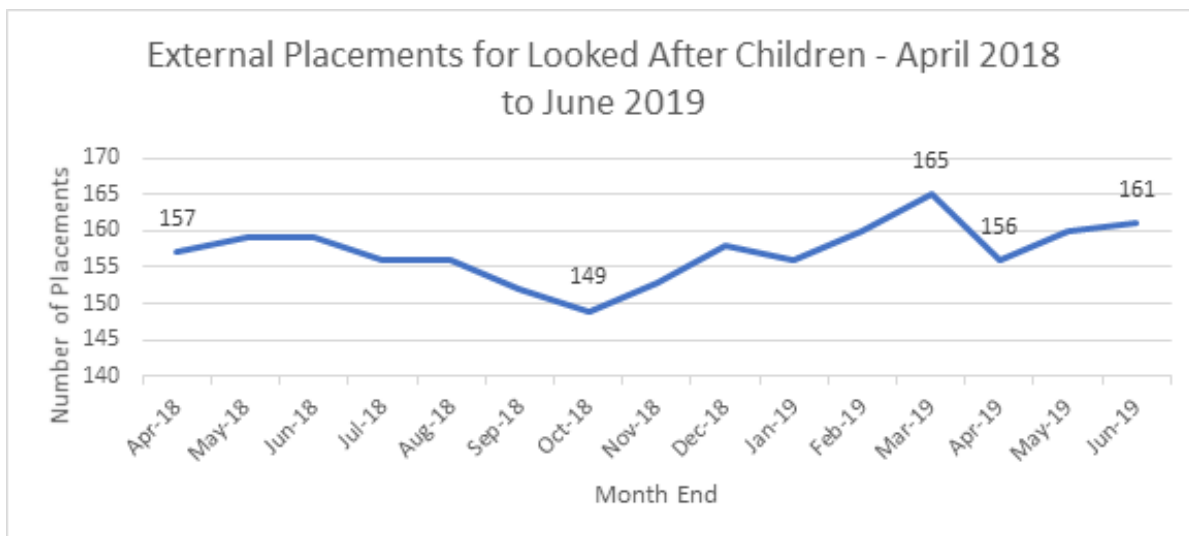
<b>Dedicated Schools Grant budgets</b>	<b>(386)</b>	<b>5,128</b>	<b>(5,514)</b>
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- 6.8 The 2019/20 People Directorate – Children’s revenue budget was set with an increase of £9.9m on the 2018/19 base budget inherited from Dorset County Council in order to address known pressures such as the increasing cost and number of external placements, associated SEN transport costs, investment in additional social care staff and on increasing in-house foster carer recruitment.
- 6.9 The Care and Protection Service is responsible for children’s social care in Dorset. Following the transfer of 33 children to the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council on 1 April 2019, there were 413 Looked After

Children in Dorset at the start of the financial year. At 30 June 2019 there are 442 Looked After Children; an increase of 29 in the first quarter.



- 6.10 Looked After Children live in a variety of settings sourced internally and externally, for example, residential care, foster care and independent accommodation. In the last 15 months an average of 36% of the Looked After Children placements have been sourced externally.

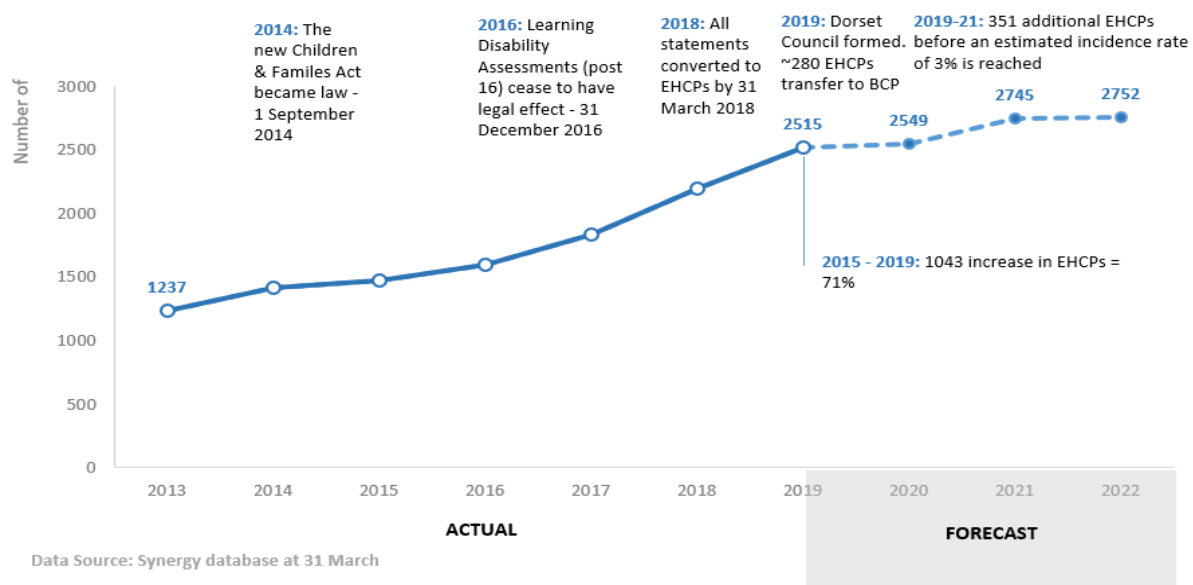


- 6.11 On 1 April 2019 15 children in external placements were transferred to the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council, leaving 150 Dorset children in these placements at the start of the financial year. As at 30 June 2019 there are 161 children with external providers; an increase of 11 in the first quarter. The current cohort of 161 children are forecast to overspend the External Placements budget by £5.5m.
- 6.12 Residential care placements are mainly required for adolescents that are highly vulnerable or that might present a danger to themselves or others. Costs range between £3,000 and £8,250 per week, this has increased significantly over the past 2 years. There has been a net increase of five new residential care placements in the first three months of 2019/20. A fortnightly

high cost placements panel has now been set up to review practice and approve the suitability and value for money of all newly proposed placements.

- 6.13 There are 199 children placed with in-house foster carers and this is below the budgeted placement level for 2019/20. The recruitment and retention of foster carers continues to be a priority for the service. The forecast underspend on the in-house Fostering budget will offset budget pressures in other areas, for example Community Resource Workers, Independent Living and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children.
- 6.14 The Commissioning & Partnerships and Director's Services budgets are forecast to overspend by £0.7m. The main part of the overspend is savings for which plans are still being finalised.
- 6.15 The Education and Learning service comprises areas funded from Dorset Council revenue budgets and the (DSG). This area provides:
- Educational services to schools including early years and post 16 settings.
  - Traded / trading services including the Dorset Music Service and Governor Support services.
  - Sufficiency and School Organisation including school admissions, SEN Transport and early years funding.
  - SEND (Special Education Needs and Disabilities) Services 0-25 including specialist teaching services, SEN Assessment team and Educational Psychology.
- 6.16 The major issues impacting Education and Learning are:
- Rising numbers of children and young people with SEND requiring an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This causes pressure on the statutory services that administer EHCPs and the EHCP process – DC revenue funded - plus the demand-led SEN Transport. This also drives demand for services and education provisions, for example high cost placements, funded from the HNB, part of the DSG. The graph shows the increase in EHCPs since the introduction of the Children and Families Act in 2014.
  - School funding decreasing and the increase in academy conversions (>50% of schools will be academies by the end of the 2019-20).

Number of Statements / EHCPs over time



- 6.17 The DSG is forecast to overspend by £5.5m. There is a further £2.9m of risk. This would mean the overall cumulative DSG deficit would be £23.7m (this will reduce slightly once the LGR disaggregation transfer to BCP takes place).
- 6.18 £0.476m of the risk is due to a decision to return this amount to maintained schools. This was a transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block as part of the 2019/20 DSG budget setting process.
- 6.19 The remainder of the risk, £2.4m, concerns EHCP growth being 194 EHCPs over the 351 budgeted increase level. The 194 is based on the current request for EHCP assessment level, used as a basis for future demand. The 194 growth is a risk and not part of the main forecast because there are several variables, including the yet unknown education provision for the child or young person and the associated cost.
- 6.20 The Dorset Council budgets within Education and Learning are forecast to overspend by £0.66m. This includes £300k of stranded costs because of Local Government Reorganisation, approximately £0.15m due to forecast under recovery of traded income (purchases below budgeted) and £0.16m due to demand pressures on the alternative provision pupils, part of the SEN Transport budget. There could be additional pressures within the SEN transport area, however this will be known once contracts and new routes have been set up in September.

#### Other budgets

- 6.21 Expectations for other areas are not materially different from the budget at this stage except some additional New Homes Bonus funding (£275k) and the £2.5m uncommitted contingency budget in the central finance line of the table.
- 6.22 Convergence savings also mentioned earlier are held within these budgets until the restructure work is complete. £5.2m is anticipated and the council is making good progress with this work. Savings from LGR are being realised

and are on-track and are flowing through to support delivery of services to residents.

## **7. Capital programme, strategy and budget**

- 7.1 The council also approved the capital budget for 2019/20 at its meeting on 20 February. The programme was established through the Budget Working Group, which took approved projects from the predecessor councils. There was no new bidding and the budget included only projects that were due to start on or after 1 April 2019. The programme is predicted to cost £65.3m and is funded from capital grants, other contributions (such as from developers through S106 agreements), revenue contributions and borrowing.
- 7.2 The approved programme excluded slippage of unfinished schemes from 2018/19. Any slippage will already be financed as part of being approved in 2018/19 or earlier so the budget impact will be net nil. Officers are working through the slippage calculations to ensure cash flow estimates are accurate and any funding that needs to be drawn down is available when required. It is also important to define the level of capital receipts in reserves that is required to support the programme alongside other sources of finance.
- 7.3 As well as the capital receipts work, Executive Directors and the Cabinet member for Finance are also establishing governance arrangements to ensure that the emerging vision and priorities are supported by a capital programme and that the overall plan is affordable and well managed.
- 7.4 The February 2019 budget report set out that £13.5m would be needed to fund LGR implementation costs. No support from Government has been provided to meet these costs, so they will need to be funded from our own resources using capital receipts. There is currently £6.5m available in the capital receipts reserve and plans are well developed to fund the balance of £7M through planned in year asset sales.

## **8. Savings plans/targets**

- 8.1 A number of savings were incorporated into the 2019/20 base budget. These ranged from straight forward, de-duplication (like subscriptions) right through to more complex change projects such as fairer charging, renegotiation of block contracts, demand management initiatives and restructuring.
- 8.2 Each Directorate Leadership Team monitors its own savings targets and performance through a cost reduction board (or similar). South West Audit Partnership (SWAP) is also undertaking a three-part review of financial management in these early stages of the year to provide valuable assurance as well as advisory work. Whilst officers continue to include assumptions about savings achieved/likely/unachieved in their forecasts, SWAP will also provide some independent evaluation of the processes and outcomes as we seek to build a revised 2019/20 base budget for use in the MTFP.

## **9. Risks – and opportunities**

- 9.1 There are clearly risks in the short and longer-term. In 2019/20, the council should be robust enough to mitigate and manage these risks, through a combination of prudent use of reserves, management action and making in-year savings. But there is also risk to our ongoing, base position. The 2019/20 budget rebasing exercise is in progress and will be a cornerstone of our longer-term sustainability and the starting point of the MTFP.
- 9.2 It is likely that the re-basing work, as well as highlighting risks, will also identify opportunities. For example, early indications in our quarter 1 forecasting work suggest there is scope for further income to accrue from fees and charges and in treasury management. We have not built-in material changes for these items at this stage as it is prudent to deal with the council's cost base as well as looking at opportunities to realise additional income. However, a clear schedule of likely opportunities is being drawn-up and officers will be tasked with developing options for base budget improvements as they are appointed to positions in the new structure.

## **10. Planning/impact on budget 2020/21 and MTFP**

- 10.1 Work is under way to build the new MTFP for Dorset Council. Beyond the model itself, there are significant uncertainties around the implementation and timing of the *Fair Funding Review* and *Business Rates Retention*. This uncertainty means that creating a picture of funding beyond this year is more challenging and may need more time for Government to finalise and implement. It would also appear likely that the next spending review is becoming more of a short-term settlement than a formal spending review.
- 10.2 There have also been changes to recent council tax referendum limits, with 2018/19 and 2019/20 being allowed to increase by up to 3% rather than 2% in previous years, before a referendum would be required. The referendum limits for 2020/21 are not currently clear.
- 10.3 Despite this lack of certainty we will continue to develop the longer-term financial strategy of the council, supported by a MTFP. The MTFP will be driven by and will underpin the resources to deliver the corporate plan. Clearly there are pressures to manage in the current year and this report sets out some of the strategies being deployed to mitigate and manage these. But they cannot be tackled without major reform of our operating model, systems, processes and most importantly our culture.
- 10.4 This council remains confident that it has the resources available to overcome short-term pressures while it continues to refine the vision, strategies and operating model that will deliver the sustainable, dynamic and innovative organisation that Dorset's residents need.

Aidan Dunn

**Executive Director, Corporate Development**

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Date of Meeting: 30 July 2019

Lead Member: Andrew Parry

Lead Officer: Sarah Parker

Executive Summary: This paper reviews current research on the rise in numbers of looked after children in England and Wales. It notes differential rates of increase between local authorities within the two countries and looks at the possible reasons for this. It also reviews emerging evidence about strategies to reduce the number of looked after children and indicates some potential components of such a strategy in Dorset.

Equalities Impact Assessment: NA

Budget: NA

Risk Assessment:

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: LOW

Residual Risk: LOW

Other Implications:

Recommendation: That the Executive Director of People – Children should develop a strategy and detailed roadmap to reduce the number of children in care, taking a rights-

based approach, which develops services which support children to be able to grow up in a family setting and bring back to Cabinet in September 2019.

Reason for Recommendation: The reduction of the number of children in care in Dorset would:

1. Promote the rights of children
2. Improve the outcomes for children
3. Enable services to be sustainable

Appendices: NA

Background Papers: Links are contained within the report

Officer Contact

Name: Stuart Riddle

Tel: 01305-225539

Email: [stuart.riddle@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.riddle@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

## **1. The case for reducing the number of children in care**

There are several reasons why it is important to have a strategy which focuses explicitly on the need to reduce the size of the population of children in care in Dorset. The [What Works Centre for Children's Social Care](#) summarises these as:

- Human rights - the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) 1989 and the Children's Act (UK, 1989), both of which emphasise the importance of a child being cared for by their parents
- Outcomes - Care-experienced individuals experience a range of adverse outcomes across the life-course compared to the general population, including higher rates of psychological disorders, poorer educational attainment and lower rates of employment (Ford et al., 2007, Evans et al., 2017, Trout et al., 2008).
- Use of public resources to best effect - Out-of-home placements incur significant costs, with an average annual spend per head of £29,000-£33,000 for foster care and £131,000 -£135,000 for residential care in England (National Audit Office, 2014). Demand for external placements for looked after children remains high and the forecast overspend in this area for Dorset council has increased to £5.5m.

In general, the continued focus on service improvement in corporate parenting in the first decades of the 21<sup>st</sup> century (Children (Leaving Care) Act, Quality Protects, Care Matters etc) has led to local authorities foregrounding positive news and success stories, while forgetting the lessons of the research conducted in the last two decades of the twentieth century:

- Outcomes and life chances for children in care are worse than for their peers

- Drift sets in quickly when children are placed in care – after six months, episodes are likely to be prolonged
- Most children in care return to live with their families in adulthood

## **2. Local background and context**

The number of children in care has risen [nationally](#) by 17% in the years 2010 to 2018. In [Dorset](#) the number of children in care has risen from 344 in 2013 to 445 in July 2019, peaking at over 500 in early 2017. Meanwhile the number of children per 10,000 who are in care has risen to 64 from 60 nationally between 2013 and 2019. The rate of increase in Dorset has outstripped the national rise – rising from 44.4 per 10,000 in 2013 to 62.7 in April 2019. In addition, Dorset's rate per 10,000 has gone from being lower than south west authorities and statistical neighbours to exceeding both.

In Dorset in 2018, a total of 650 children were looked after during the year, with 170 starting to be looked after during the year, and 202 ceasing to be looked after. Although this is superficially encouraging, many of the young people who ceased to be looked after were transitioning to being care leavers at 18. 38.7% moved into independent living or adult settings, were determined to be over 18 following an age assessment, or ceased to be looked after "by any other means". In April 2019, 63 young people were aged 17.

The only age bands where the percentage of leavers exceeded starters were 1-4 year olds and 16+. In terms of active effort to help children leave the care system, 34.8% of children who ceased to be looked after were adopted or became subject to a special guardianship order or a residence order. The adoption rate has finally matched the national figure, while the special guardianship rate exceeds the national rate. A lower percentage of children return to live with their parents (24.3%) than the national rate (32.7%).

44 children became subject to a care order, and applications were made in respect of 107 children. 70% of children who had been looked after for at least 2.5 years had been in the same placement for 2 years. 7% of children had had 3 placements or more. It would be important to match the destination data to the age profile to get a better understanding of typical care pathways. In April 2019, roughly half of all children in care had entered the system in the last three years, and half had entered in 2016 or earlier. The proportion of children subject to a care order has increased from 37% in 2014 to 65% in 2018. The population of children in care has both increased, and has become more static.

The percentage of children who returned to live with parents and relatives in an unplanned way was 6.4%, and the number who ceased for any other reason was 21.8%. The latter number should be investigated as, although it is in line with national and regional figures, it represents a significant cohort whose exit from the system is not accurately explained. The two figures combined hint at the existence of a cohort of children whose care episode was avoidable.

In order to reduce the number of looked after children in a sustainable measure, it is important that the number of leavers exceeds the number of starters. In order to get an accurate view of sustainable reduction the number of leavers should be adjusted to remove those who leave by virtue of reaching the age of 18. Overstating reductions created by transitions are misleading for two reasons

- The reduction in numbers may not reflect the underlying rate of growth of the population

- Care leavers remain the responsibility of the local authority until the age of 25 – they continue to receive a statutory service, and this requires budget.

In summary, one can suggest

- The care population of Dorset is increasingly long term and static – there will be a basic cost and commitment of staff which will not change markedly in year. This could be modelled to predict future service need and spending patterns
- Permanence planning appears to ensure that leavers exceed starters in the 0-9 age bands, however there needs to be some reflection on the Trowler report and whether the pursuit of permanency at all costs brings children into the system who could be supported to live with their parents.
- Increasing the number and percentage of planned returns to parents and relatives could be a productive strategy
- Nearly a third of all starters are aged 10-15 and this rises to 44% when over 16s are added. This is an age group where early help, edge of care, and diversionary services could have an effect in avoiding care

### **3. How can we understand the rise in numbers?**

The rise in the number of looked after children is often attributed to a rise in “need” or “demand”. These categories are treated as objective and material, and linked causally to:

- Partner agency behaviour change – a rise in referrals - after the Baby P case
- Austerity – a rise in poverty and a reduction in services available to the public
- Complexity – the idea that more people have more complex problems

Where a subjective element is acknowledged, it is usually attributed to increased professional knowledge and awareness of issues such as sexual exploitation, trafficking, brain science or neuropsychology.

In [Care Proceedings in England: The Case for Clear Blue Water \(2018\)](#) Isabelle Trowler concluded:

“The study found that the difficulties facing families in court proceedings today were very similar to 5 years ago. There was little evidence in the records of greater *complexity* of need. Indeed, members of the review team who had been in practice for many years recognised the continuum of needs as the same as 20 years ago. Certainly all the families whose records we reviewed were in need of help from the State.”

Further, she wrote:

“In the last few years there has been a much greater and deliberate national focus on: - the early protection of the child, a stronger focus on lower level parenting concerns as signs of cumulative neglect with a risk of future harm, a greater sense of urgency to act and secure permanence without delay, and the need to act on the side of safety. .... In line with these expectations, the study found an increasing emphasis on predicting what *might* happen, rather than what *has* happened, and a *lower* (but inconsistent) tolerance of diverse standards of parenting.”

In other words, the rise in court applications in the authorities in the study related to a change in policy and culture, rather than a rise in complexity or need.

In 2018, the All Party Parliamentary Group for Children published [Storing up trouble - a postcode lottery of children's social care](#). This report identified significant differences in the thresholds and offers between different local authorities.

The issue has been studied in more depth by the [Child Welfare Inequalities Project](#) at Coventry University. The research is ongoing but has identified significant differences in intervention rates between local authorities. The report acknowledged a strong link between deprivation and adverse life chances (based on a 2015 [rapid evidence review](#) commissioned from them by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation), but showed a complex and non linear relationship between rates of intervention and deprivation.

The research project is informed by the discourse around rights and is agnostic about whether high or low rates of intervention are good outcomes in themselves. Two complex patterns of difference which were identified were:

- There is a steep gradient in the level of intervention with the most deprived families - 60% of CPP and LAC live in the most deprived 20% of neighbourhoods, while 40% live in more affluent 80% of neighbourhoods.
- The gradient of intervention is not uniform across local authorities. The project has called this the “[inverse intervention law](#)” - for equivalent levels of deprivation a child in a more affluent local authority overall is more likely to be on a CPP or to be a looked after child. There are also differentials in how likely BME groups are to be LAC or CPP.

The most credible explanation of the inverse intervention law is the culture and norms within those more affluent local authority areas. Dorset certainly fits the model of an affluent area with pockets of deprivation, and this is even more the case when life chances measures are applied to an area like Weymouth rather than static deprivation indices.

#### **4. What works, and what doesn't work?**

The What Works Centre for Children's Social Care is conducting ongoing research into how [numbers of children in care can be safely reduced](#). The focus is on three outcomes:

- reduction of initial entry to care
- reduction of re-entry to care
- increase in post-care reunification.

[Telephone interviews](#) with a range of local authority leaders established some consensus about factors associated with reducing the need for care:

- early help
- financial investment
- supportive leadership
- constructive scrutiny
- organisational culture

- good partnerships

A [survey](#) of all local authorities indicated that behind the consensus lies some muddled thinking with little agreed definition of terms. One important finding was:

“Local authorities that had seen a reduction in care were more likely to report having instigated their approaches 5 to 10 years previously.”

This indicates what may be a realistic timescale for sustained improvement.

“Respondents were asked to select the top three approaches that they thought were most effective in preventing the need for children to come into care in their local authority. The most popular was a whole system approach, selected by 81.7 per cent, followed by edge of care services (61.7 per cent), early help (56.7 per cent), family group conferences (43.3 per cent), parenting programmes (18.3 per cent), short break services (15 per cent) and ‘other’ services which did not fit the categories offered (20 per cent).”

There was little commonality in some of the terms used, and little evidence base for some of the approaches, including self-evaluation. The next stage for the What Works Centre programme will be the systematic review of particular interventions, starting with Signs of Safety and Family Group Conferences. Although this will be valuable, there is a danger that it feeds into a magic bullet mentality about intervention models – these are seductive, and the roll out of training for such approaches may be lucrative for providers, provide an impression of activity for leaders, and some respite from the day job for practitioners, without any major impact on the lives of citizens. The important learning may be from the Coventry study giving authorities some insight about how they should position themselves to influence local systemic issues.

Studies have considered the interaction between deprivation and service quality and the possible effect on LAC numbers. While the total number of children in care increased between 2012 and 2017, the What Works Centre for Children’s Social Care [Exploratory Analysis of the rates of children looked after in English local authorities](#) analysed publicly available data to try and understand why the number and rate of children in care remained stable or declined in 40% of local authorities.

“Poverty in the local area was an important factor. .... Whilst studies to date have established a correlation at one point in time (e.g. Bywaters et al., 2018) this is the first UK study to identify that average changes in poverty over time are associated with average changes in numbers entering care. .... Equally, our findings indicate that numbers of children in care are not solely a function of wider economic factors. Better Ofsted ratings and participation in the Innovation programme, for example, were both associated with reducing numbers of children in care. Put simply, good services help local authorities reduce the number of children in care.”

[Bywaters et al](#) looked at the relationship between deprivation, expenditure on children in need, and OFSTED judgements. The evidence was that good or outstanding judgements were more likely for LAs in low deprivation areas, but that in high deprivation areas, there was a significant correlation between the judgement and the level of expenditure per child.

## **5. What has been tried in Dorset?**

Between 2017 and 2019 our looked after population reduced by around 50 children, however much of this reduction was driven by care leaver transitions rather than active management.

Several measures were undertaken wholly or in part to address the situation. These were mostly top down approaches and had little or limited success.

- Restructure – specialist services for children 0-12 and 13 to 25 were created in order to progress good quality care and permanency planning. A specialist assessment service (FAST) was established to improve the quality of parenting assessment within the PLO and legal proceedings. The Family Focus service was also established with families and prevent children coming into care however this was later reassigned to support the newly established MASH service.
- Reinvigorating Social Work – the programme was brought in to improve relationship/strength based assessment, planning and outcomes. The 10 week programme has been made available to all social workers and Team Managers
- Decision to Issue Panel – the process of decision making in relation to family proceedings varied between districts and teams and some applications were being made without sufficient pre proceedings work being undertaken. The panel is chaired by the Service Manager for Support and Protection and meets weekly to consider any new applications to court, scrutinise the standard of work completed, clarify the care plan to be submitted and either authorise the application or establish what alternative planning and action is needed
- Care Plans – In Spring 2018 it was established that a substantial number of children did not have an up to date care plan (74%). A recovery programme was implemented to correct this and within 3 months over 90% of children had a plan. Alongside this the care plan was revised to improve content and briefing delivered to reinforce the principles of good care planning.
- Enhanced Monitoring Panel – this is a monthly meeting which examines care planning for children under 16 subject to Sec 20 for 3 months plus to ensure that plans are being progressed to achieve return home or into proceedings; children who have been subject to Placement Orders for 1 year plus and not placed for adoption; and children placed with parents to establish whether revocation of the care order is appropriate
- Collaboration with Shropshire and Essex confirmed the need for a support service to prevent family/placement breakdown. The Meaningful Day provision was not found to be efficient or effective.
- Safe Families for Children – this is a charity we have commissioned to provide a support service to families including offering hosting to children to avoid the need for children to become looked after. The service commenced on 01/04/2019.
- Management Instruction Notes – a number of MIN's were written in support of TriX procedures, covering a number of areas of practice
- Performance reports – managers now receive weekly performance reports on key issues including completion of care plans, statutory visits to looked after children and supervision

These measures may have contributed to the maintenance of a slightly lower number of looked after children, but there is little evidence to support this.

It is evident from service development in other authorities that in order to achieve more, and in particular to realign us with regional and neighbour comparators (a looked after children rate of 51-55 per 10,000 would result in LAC population of 350 to 380), a fundamental change of approach will be required.

## 6. Where has it worked?

Some of the DfE Innovation Programme schemes have particular relevance for Dorset:

- [Project Crewe](#) - Project Crewe demonstrated that a staffing model not wholly reliant on social work qualified staff could achieve positive outcomes for CIN. Cheshire East has some similarities with Dorset – mainly affluent with pockets of deprivation, and a silted up CIN system with poor outcomes and high re-referral rates.
- [No Wrong Door](#) - The North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) No Wrong Door (NWD) innovation provides an integrated service for young people, aged 12 to 25, who either are in care, edging to or on the edge of care, or have recently moved to supported or independent accommodation whilst being supported under NWD.
- [Family Safeguarding Hertfordshire](#) – This is badged as whole system reform but can be more accurately described as a reform of late intervention. The project established multi-disciplinary safeguarding teams, some reformed practice measures, and a suite of interagency KPIs which show how families interact with all partners in the system.

The first two projects might be described as preventive, but this does not adequately capture the stratification of the response. Project Crewe intervenes upstream and effectively collapses a distinction between early help and CIN work. NWD is a crisis intervention model which links up with a reconfigured model of residential and fostering provision.

What both have in common is a dedicated team of non social work staff who have

- low caseloads
- good interpersonal skills
- a defined set of intervention skills
- avoidance of bureaucracy and appointment culture
- stickability
- access to specialist input and coaching

The What Works Centre For Children's Social Care recently published [Intensive family preservation services to prevent out of home placement for children](#), a systematic review of the existing research evidence for the effectiveness of such approaches. The report stated

“The available evidence, at child level, suggests that IFPS were effective in preventing children from entering care at 3, 6, 12 and 24 months after the intervention.”

But cautioned

“It is evident that IFPS vary in effectiveness, suggesting that how IFPS are implemented is important. It is likely that key elements of the model such as working with children who are at imminent risk of entering care and offering support with 24 hours of a referral are important in ensuring that the service is effective.”

## **7. What do we need to do about it?**

### **7.1 Prevention**

The conversation about reducing numbers of looked after children is often reduced to an issue of thresholds. Thresholds can be problematic for several reasons:

- Help is given at the point of crisis – not at the point when future outcomes can be influenced in a positive direction.
- Consideration of risk, harm and options to help are seen purely through a social care lens, and partners are able to hand off responsibility as result.
- The culture of escalation removes the ability to apply influence to the system upstream to avoid care as an option.

Early Help approaches can be key to intervening with children who may be at risk of entering care, particularly those who are being escalated through parallel systems to social care, where local authority care can be seen as the ultimate resolution for system failure, such as

- School exclusion and alternative provision
- SEN
- CAMHS

More work needs to be undertaken to increase multi-agency ownership and a whole public sector system approach to avoiding late intervention and cost shunting where possible.

The preventive strategy in Dorset will need to be nuanced and include both early help and crisis intervention.

#### **Options:**

- Multi-agency ownership – LSCB, Strategic Alliance, Community Safety Partnership, Corporate Parenting Board should commit to a late intervention reduction strategy
- A place based model of service delivery should be adopted to enable Dorset Council to take a whole system approach to prevention
- A blended early help/CIN approach drawing on the Project Crewe model should be developed. This should shift a substantial amount of social work resource to early help teams.
- Focus social care activity on child protection and looked after children
- Develop an edge of care service which can respond to crisis, and support reunification.

### **7.2 Business intelligence**

Dorset Council currently has the indicators of a DRIP culture – Data Rich, Insight Poor – and more work (some of which is planned) needs to take place to unlock the power of the data which we routinely collect.

Further investment in business intelligence solutions will improve the ability of services to act constructively where there is a risk that children may become looked after by the local authority. This can be combined with a multi agency early help strategy to ensure that help is given without creating a situation where too many children are drawn into the scope of specialist services.

The demographic predictors of a care career are well understood, but real time data and the use of visualisation tools such as theographs greatly increase the ability of services to identify cohorts at risk. For those children who do require a care intervention, we know enough from research to offer a response differentiated according to age, presenting factors and risk – rather than a permanency for all approach.

**Options:**

- Further investment in BI required to develop our ability to identify children at risk of care, track children through the system, and develop multi-agency KPIs

### **7.3 Culture and decision making**

The reduction of the number of children in care will require a change of culture around decision making. Decisions will need to be made earlier which can impact positively on families and reduce the need for care. – in a situation where many practitioners and managers feel overwhelmed by demand, there is comfort to be had in only providing a reactive service that is referral driven. Likewise, for many managers, resource management is part of their traditional approach, and waiting for a crisis to emerge and then providing the minimal response required seems like common sense and good stewardship. The [Forward Together for Children Stage 1](#) report noted:

“There does seem to be a culture in Children's Services of spending time talking about whether to spend money or not. This is understandable given the budgetary pressures, but focussing on costs is likely to cost more than not focussing on costs. Learning organisations are organisations that understand that concentrating on meeting needs and designing the flow of work from the customers point of view, rather than concentrating on cost, will actually reduce costs. This can sound counter intuitive and it can be hard to let go of managing costs but there are many case studies that back up this point of view.”

Combined with a risk averse approach, it produces a world view where rising LAC numbers are a part of the natural order of things, and where overspends are produced by inadequate budget allocation.

Efforts to control the numbers of children in care in Dorset have largely been focussed on escalating and centralising all aspects of decision making about children in care – exaggerating the inbuilt bias of the organisation towards a command and control model. Alongside this, expensive panel structures have proliferated and claimed a significant proportion of the working week for senior managers. Natural wastage in the system – the fact that children leave care on their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday – has been claimed as a reduction in numbers, when the underlying rate of increase has not changed.

The main drawback of the approach is that senior managers are drawn into the decision making process too far downstream, where the ability to influence events is limited. There is also some anecdotal evidence that the process can be “gamed”. Needless to say, the approach has been ineffectual, and has contributed to a sense of disempowerment and disengagement in the wider workforce.

The [Forward Together for Children Stage 1](#) report identified the costs of the command and control approach within Children's Services, and the case is more compelling than ever. Moving towards a devolved decision making culture would mean:

- An increase in accountability
- Decisions being taken more quickly and closer to the citizen
- A decrease in cost and transaction cost

Work needs to be carried out with the IRO service to inject more challenge into the review process. Is the possibility of a return home routinely considered seriously in reviews? Is the first six months of placement seen a crucial time period in which reunification could take place, or is all effort marshalled to delivering permanency? Could the outsourcing of the service deliver this better, by making it a key performance criteria for the new provider?

#### **Options:**

- Embed an understanding of LAC reduction strategy within workforce, focussing on the reduction of harm and a rights based approach rather than the management of risk
- Replace existing decision making panels with an accountability and quality assurance function
- Robust consideration of the prospect for reunification should be a component of all LAC reviews.

### **7.4 Sufficiency**

Dorset is currently in the bottom ten local authorities in England for the number of children placed more than twenty miles from home. While it is sometimes necessary to place children some distance from their home, either for their own protection or to access specialist services, in most cases, placement closer to home will enable a child to maintain contact with family and friends, continue at their existing school, and continue access any specialist support services.

At time of writing, 178 children are placed in external placements. Of these, 20% (35) are placed with providers in Dorset. Of the external placements which are out of county, 60% (101) are placed in authorities which border Dorset. This pattern suggests that some determined engagement with the market might be able to either bring providers into Dorset or unlock existing provision in Dorset so that the number of children placed within the local authority can increase.

Approaches to sufficiency include:

- Frameworks – Dorset Council is a member of a number of framework arrangements for residential and fostering provision. This approach uses the bargaining power of a consortium of local authorities to set a pricing framework with providers, but it does not guarantee access to placements as such. There is a view that we have reached the limit of the benefits which can be delivered by a framework approach.
- Block contracting – Dorset Council's predecessors were wary of entering into block contract arrangements with providers, however in retrospect, given the continuous rise in numbers of looked after children, this approach would have carried very little risk of over provision, and would have potentially locked in local or sub-regional providers in a relationship which would have guaranteed access to local placements. The price lever in this instance is the guarantee of continuous business from a single local authority rather than access to a preferred provider list of a consortium.

- SIBs – There has also been little appetite for Social Impact Bonds in predecessor councils although they would be worth exploring to either fund additional preventive capacity or provide the capital for new residential provision.
- In house fostering – Dorset Council has issues around recruitment of and support to in house foster carers. The current cohort has not grown in line with the rising numbers of looked after children, and there is a perceived lack of resilience in the system which leads to placement instability and rising costs as placements escalate. While there is work to be done to improve the service, or put it at arms length, it will also be important to avoid an in house first policy for placements – making the best match on the basis of identified need is likely to result in more stable placements, improved outcomes, and reduced cost over time.
- External fostering - a substantial number of children looked after by other local authorities live in Dorset with external providers – could these placements be rededicated to Dorset children?
- Market shaping – there has been a lack of market engagement and dialogue with providers. Such an approach could either guarantee access to provision in Dorset, stimulate inward investment by providers, or lead to innovation.

**Options:**

- Transfer all commissioning spending and staff to commissioning team
- Bring directly provided services (fostering, residential homes, CRWs etc) into an internal commissioning framework
- Strengthen brokerage team

Approval of Homes England Housing  
Infrastructure Fund (HIF) Grant Determination  
Agreement for submission – Gillingham  
Principal Street

Date of Meeting: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Lead Member: Cllr Ray Bryan – Lead Member for Highways, Travel and  
Environment

Lead Officer: John Sellgren, Executive Director for Place

**Executive Summary:**

In January 2018, Welbeck Strategic Land LLP made an application for outline planning permission to construct an urban extension upon land to the south of Gillingham between Shaftesbury Road (B3081) and New Road (B3092) This land is shown [on the plan annexed to this report] at Appendix 1.

Once complete, the urban extension will comprise of up to 961 dwellings and incorporate up to 2,642sq.m of retail, community, health, and leisure uses. The development will also include new and enhanced pedestrian/cycle routes, open spaces, roads, car parking and vehicular access.

The land forms part of a wider development site allocated for development by North Dorset District Council under the North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 2011-2031 (NDLP). The wider development site has the potential to deliver a further 749 homes and incorporates land controlled by CG Fry and Son Limited and Taylor Wimpey [as shown on the plan attached] at Appendix 2.

Following a successful bid by North Dorset District Council to Homes England for Housing Infrastructure Funding (HIF Funding), Dorset Council have the opportunity to access monies to enable the Council to design and construct the principal street within the Welbeck area and help serve the wider development. The grant is conditional upon the Council ultimately recovering the HIF Funding in full from the benefitting developers but with the agreement that any sums so recovered may be reinvested in housing projects throughout Dorset.

It is predicted that by removing the need for the developers to bear the cost of constructing the road upfront, that the overall construction programme for the wider development site may be accelerated by an estimated seven years.

This report recommends that Cabinet authorise entry into the Funding Agreement upon terms to be agreed by the Portfolio Holder in consultation with the Director for Place.

**Equalities Impact Assessment:**

An EqIA screening has been completed for this report. The design of the road would include a full EqIA.

**Budget:**

The Funding Agreement allows the Council to access up to £6,310,000 to design and construct the 1.38km section of the principal street shown coloured yellow on the plan attached to this report at Appendix 3.

Preliminary cost estimates (which include a 20% optimism bias) indicate that this sum should be adequate to cover the Council's total costs in designing and constructing the principal street.

The grant agreement does not make any provision for additional funding should the cost of designing and constructing road be greater than expected.

It has been agreed in principle with Homes England and the respective developers that the monies will be recovered by the Council by imposing obligations upon the developers in the Section 106 Agreements which will accompany planning permission for the wider development. However, these contributions will also be capped meaning that any shortfall between the HIF Funding and the actual costs of construction will need to be met by the Council.

The Council may only recover its actual costs under the funding agreement and any unspent sums must be returned to Homes England.

The Council would need to recover the monies in arrears and payment is linked to the Council satisfying a variety of pre-conditions and delivery milestones.

Should the Council persistently fail to meet its milestones, Homes England hold the right to terminate the agreement with immediate effect and request the return of any funding already drawn down.

**Risk Assessment:**

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

FINANCIAL RISK: MEDIUM

LEGAL RISK: LOW

STRATEGIC: MEDIUM

SAFETY, WELLBEING AND SAFEGUARDING: LOW

REPUTATION: LOW

SERVICE DELIVERY: LOW

### Financial

The Council's ability to recover the monies expended in designing and constructing the principal street is dependent upon the Council satisfying a variety of pre-conditions and delivery milestones.

There is a financial risk to Dorset Council that the Funding Agreement could be terminated, or the funding withheld by Homes England, if these pre-conditions and milestones are not met. There are further financial risks if delivery milestones for the wider development are persistently missed. This could result in funding being returned to Homes England. To mitigate this risk, officers will closely monitor performance and renegotiate milestones with Homes England where necessary.

Although these pre-conditions are still under negotiation, some are linked to matters which are outside of the Council's control because they relate to the wider development.

Officers have developed a preliminary programme which demonstrates that the milestones set by Funding Agreement are achievable but whilst this preliminary programme makes allowance for some delays, a level of risk to the Council remains.

### Strategic

The offer of HIF Funding is time sensitive and there is a risk of Homes England withdrawing the funding offer if the Council fails to enter into the Funding Agreement in a timely manner. Should this occur, the delivery of key elements of the development may be put at risk and there may be pressure to compromise on the provision of other community infrastructure and planning obligations.

### Reputation/Strategic

The HIF Funding is to be used to construct the principal street of a site allocated for development by North Dorset District Council. The aim is to accelerate delivery of urban extension by removing the need for developers to pay for vital infrastructure at the outset of development. However, the Council cannot force development of this land and there is a risk that developers will not implement some or all of the planning permissions which are granted due to changes in economic circumstances. If this were to happen and the developers don't build as many homes as planned, the s106 obligations may be only partly enforced, or not at all, and Dorset Council may not be able to recover the funding.

### **Other Implications:**

State Aid – the offer of Housing Infrastructure Funding has the potential for State Aid implications given that the financial intervention assists private developers in the delivery of housing. It is a pre-contract condition of the Grant Agreement to clarify whether the funding offer has any potential to breach State Aid rules. Advice

has been sought from solicitors Clarke Willmott LLP over the State Aid implications for this scheme. This advice demonstrates there would be no State Aid breach.

**Recommendation:**

That Cabinet authorise entry into a Funding Agreement with Homes England to secure up to £6,310,000 of Housing Infrastructure Funding on the terms and conditions to be agreed by the Portfolio Holder in consultation with the Director for Place.

**Reason for Recommendation:**

To promote and assist in the delivery of the proposed Gillingham Strategic Site Allocation by the former North Dorset District Council under the North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 2011-2031 (NDLP).

**Appendices:**

Appendix 1: *Plan of Welbeck Land.*

Appendix 2: *Plan of Gillingham Strategic Site.*

Appendix 3: *Plan of part of Principal Street proposed to be built by Dorset Council.*

**Background Papers:**

Housing Infrastructure Fund, Draft Grant Determination Agreement (not for publication)

Housing Infrastructure Fund – Standard Terms and Conditions.

North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 2011-2031 (NDLP).

**Officer Contact:**

Name: Andrew Galpin, Implementation Team Leader

Tel: 01305 838214

Email: [andrew.galpin@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.galpin@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The development of the Gillingham Strategic Site Allocation (as shown on the plan attached to this report as Appendix 2) forms a key part of the adopted North Dorset Local Plan and Development Strategy. The development will include a new primary school, sports and community facilities, open space and a local centre. The scheme has received other external funding from the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership to facilitate the delivery of off-site highway improvements at the B3081 Shaftesbury Road / B3092 New Road junction and there are various planning obligations proposed for other highway, pedestrian and cycle improvements.

- 1.2 The Gillingham Strategic Site Allocation is controlled by a consortium including the land promotor Welbeck Strategic Land LLP, and two developers CG Fry & Son and Taylor Wimpey.
- 1.3 Officers were advised by the consortium that the development of the Gillingham Strategic Site Allocation is marginally economically viable due to the need to deliver large scale infrastructure in the early stages of development. Viability appraisals have been prepared by the consortium to demonstrate this position.
- 1.4 To prevent the development of this land from stalling, the former North Dorset District Council applied to Homes England for Housing Infrastructure Funding (HIF) with the aim of receiving a grant which would enable the principal street of the Gillingham Strategic Site Allocation) to be delivered at no upfront cost to the consortium. It is anticipated that the upfront principal street will enable the wider development to come forward in full by 2038.
- 1.5 Without this assistance it is predicted that the delivery of development will take place at a slower pace with the principal street constructed piecemeal, as and when individual phases of the development come forward.

## **2. The Funding Agreement**

- 2.1 The funding agreement permits the Council to access up to £6,310,000 towards the costs of designing and constructing the principal street of the Gillingham Strategic Site Allocation. Work to design the principal street began in 2018 at cost to Dorset Council. There are provisions within the Funding Agreement to allow Dorset Council to draw down up to £235,000 within this current financial year to recover those scheme design costs incurred to date.
- 2.2 The HIF funding is offered subject to the condition that the Council agree a mechanism by which the monies received are ultimately recovered from the developers. It has been agreed in principle that the monies will be recovered by imposing obligations under the Section 106 Agreements which will accompany the planning permissions, requiring the developers to make capped contributions at various stages of construction. The use of Section 106 Agreements ensures that money is returned regardless of whether land ownership changes. The funding recovered by Dorset Council will be retained and used to assist in the delivery of other housing schemes across the Dorset Council area helping to improve the delivery of homes elsewhere and provide further public benefit.

- 2.3 The funding agreement does not make allowance for the total amount of HIF Funding to be increased should the design and construction of the road cost more than expected and as these additional monies may not be recoverable from the developers, there is a risk that any overspend would need to be met by the Council.
- 2.4 The monies expended by the Council in designing and constructing the road would be recovered in arrears by regular claims made to Homes England in accordance with the terms and conditions of the funding agreement. Payment is dependent upon the Council satisfying a variety of pre-conditions and reaching delivery milestones.
- 2.5 Officers are confident that the road can be designed and constructed in accordance with this delivery programme and have worked closely with the consortium of developers in designing the programme to mitigate these risks. The design stage has been refined to take account of preliminary site investigations such as levels and surface water flooding. The build phase will be delivered in collaboration with a highways contractor under the Dorset Highways - Works Term Service Contract.
- 2.6 As the grant has been awarded with the aim of accelerating development of the Gillingham Strategic Site Allocation, some of the pre-conditions and milestones require third party involvement and this does create a degree of risk, as these matters will be outside of the Council's control.
- 2.7 Nevertheless, officers are confident that the delivery of the wider Gillingham Strategic Site Allocation will be delivered in accordance with the timescales provided by the consortium.
- 2.8 Should quarterly monitoring identify the potential for a future milestone to be missed, officers will work with Homes England to agree and implement revised milestones.
- 2.9 In securing this funding and delivering the principal street, it is expected to increase the pace at which new homes are delivered, building a strong and inclusive sustainable community with infrastructure that will support people to live and work in the Gillingham area.
- 2.10 Delivery of the principal street up front will increase the pace of development reducing disruption to the wider road network and amenity of new and existing residents. The street will enable pedestrian and cycle connectivity to serve the wider development and beyond.

**3. Land Ownership and Access for Construction**

- 3.1 The Council will require access to the land controlled by Welbeck Strategic Land LLP to construct the principal street, this will be a pre-condition to drawing down the HIF Funding.
- 3.2 Although, Welbeck Strategic Land LLP have control of the land by a series of promotion and option agreements the land remains in private ownership.
- 3.3 It is proposed that the Council will obtain the necessary rights by entering into an agreement under the Highways Act 1980 with Welbeck Strategic Land LLP and the various landowners and that this agreement will also provide for the dedication and adoption of the principal street as a highway maintainable at the public expense.
- 3.4 This agreement will be authorised by the appropriate officer under the Council's Scheme of Delegation.

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Appendix 1 - Plan of Welbeck Land

Notes:  
Do not scale from this drawing.  
All contractors must visit the site and be responsible for taking and checking Dimensions.  
All construction information should be taken from figured dimensions only.  
Any discrepancies between drawings, specifications and site conditions must be brought to the attention of the supervising officer.  
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This drawing is for planning purposes only. It is not intended to be used for construction purposes. Whilst all reasonable efforts are used to ensure drawings are accurate, JTP accept no responsibility or liability for any reliance placed on, or use made of, this plan by anyone for purposes other than those stated above.

- Key
- Application boundary
  - Existing building
  - Existing watercourse and water body

P3	22.05.19	Updated red line boundary for resubmission	ECC	CSM/RT
P2	17.12.18	Submission For Outline Planning	YQ	ECC
P1	12.12.17	Submission For Outline Planning	JH	ECC/CSM

Rev	Date	Description	Drawn	Chkd
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Drawing Status  
**OUTLINE PLANNING**

Client  
**Welbeck Land**



**WELBECK LAND**



JTP Studios  
Unit 5, The Rum Warehouse  
Pennington Street  
London, E1W 2AP  
+44 (0)20 7017 1780  
www.jtp.co.uk

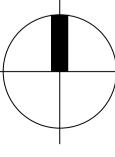
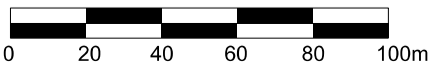
Project  
**Land South of Gillingham\_Dorset**

Drawing Title  
**Parameter Plan 01:  
Red Line Plan**

Scale @ A1 1: 2000      Job Ref. 01050

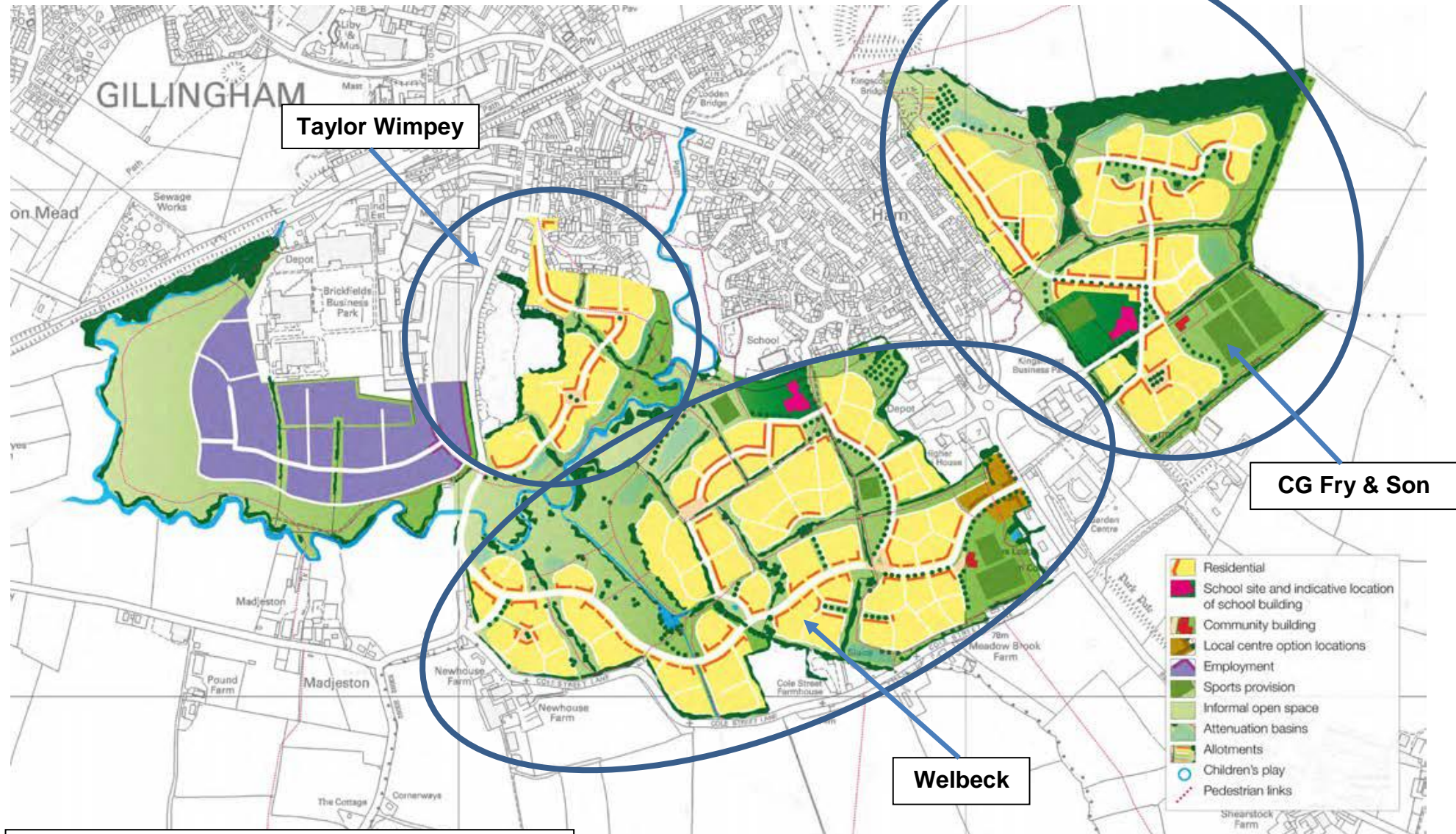
Drawing No. 01050\_PP\_01      Revision P3

Scale Bar



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## Appendix 2 – Plan of Gillingham Strategic Site Allocation



Map © Terence O'Rourke Ltd 2015.  
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# Appendix 3 - Plan of principal street

Key

Carriageway

Shared Surface

Verge

Highway Drainage Feature.

D	17Jan19	Road drainage design updated	SEP
C	11Dec18	Alignment altered to avoid red-line.	SEP
B	07Nov18	Piped drainage substituted for swales.	SEP
A	03Sept18	JTP comments incorporated.	SEP
Orig	21Aug18	Transport B3092 junction layout added	SEP
		Alignment amended ch840-1220	SEP
		Loop Rd jcn resized for refuse veh.	SEP
		Draft	SEP
Rev	Date	Issue / Remarks	Checked



DORSET HIGHWAYS  
Matthew Piles  
Economy Infrastructure and Growth

Project Title		
GILLINGHAM PRINCIPAL STREET		
Drawing Title		
LOCATION PLAN		
Scale (A1 Size)	Drawn By	Date
1:2,000	SEP	17 JAN 2019
Drawing Number		
HI1177 / 01 / 02 / D		
Drawing Status		
PRELIMINARY DESIGN		

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## Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) Screening Record

Proposal / Brief Title:	Approval of Homes England Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) Grant Determination Agreement for submission – Gillingham Principal Street
Date:	11/7/19

### Type of Strategy, Policy, Project or Service:

What is this Screening Record in relation to? (please put a cross in the relevant box)

Existing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing, update or revision:	<input type="checkbox"/>
New or proposed:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain):	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Report Created By:

Name:	Andrew Galpin
Job Title:	Implementation Team Leader
Email address:	<a href="mailto:andrew.galpin@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk">andrew.galpin@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</a>

### 1. Briefly describe the aims and objectives of the proposal:

To seek authorisation from Dorset Council Cabinet to enter into a funding agreement with Homes England to secure up to £6.31m of Housing Infrastructure Funding. The funding to allow Dorset Council to design and build the Gillingham Strategic Site Allocation Principal Street.

### 2. What outcomes are you seeking to achieve?

Authorisation to enter into the funding agreement to enable the design and delivery of the principal street.

### 3. Screening Questions

	Yes	No	Please explain your answer.
Does this proposal plan to withdraw a service, activity or presence?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Does this proposal plan to reduce a service, activity or presence?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Does this proposal plan to introduce, review or change a policy, strategy or procedure that will have new or different impact on people?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposal will help increase the pace of development enabling the creation of much needed new homes faster. Up front delivery of the road will reduce disruption for existing or proposed residents caused by piecemeal construction.

Does this proposal affect service users and/or customers, or the wider community?	x		On completion, the principal street will provide a new transport link between New Road and Shaftesbury Road, Gillingham. The road will facilitate pedestrian and cycle connectivity to the wider development and beyond. The up front delivery of the road will provide a means of access to new community facilities much sooner.
Does this proposal affect employees?		x	
Will employees require training to deliver this proposal?		x	
Has any engagement/consultation been carried out?	x		<p>The proposed principal street forms part of the Gillingham Strategic Site allocation which features extensively in the North Dorset Local Plan (Part 1). The proposal subject to consultation through the development of the Local Plan 21.</p> <p>Public consultation has also informed the outline planning applications. These applications were consulted in accordance with the principles of the Statement of Community Involvement.</p>
Are there any concerns at this stage which indicate that this proposal could have negative or unclear impacts on any of the protected characteristic group(s) below?		x	

<b>4. Protected Characteristic</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Age		x	
Disability		x	
Gender Reassignment & Gender Identity		x	
Pregnancy & maternity		x	
Race & Ethnicity		x	
Religion & Belief		x	
Sex		x	
Sexual Orientation		x	
Marriage & Civil Partnership		x	
Carers		x	
Rural isolation		x	
Single parent families		x	
Poverty (social & economic deprivation)		x	
Military families /veterans		x	

**5. Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening form**

Proposed action	Lead person	Timescale
None		

**6. EqlA Screening and Declaration**

If you have answered yes to any of the screening questions or any of the protected characteristic group(s), a full EqlA should be undertaken.

Please refer to the Equality Impact Assessment guidance and requirement flow chart before completing this section. If you decide that your 'policy' does not require an EqlA, it is important to show that you have given this decision **due regard**.

Complete the relevant declaration depending on your outcome:

EQiA Required	Yes / No
	If yes, please complete a full EqlA template
If no, please explain how you have given this decision due regard:	A full EQiA will be prepared as part of the road design stage.

Officer completing this Screening Template	Andrew Galpin	Date	11/7/19
Equality Lead	Jane Nicklen	Date	11 July 2019
Relevant Focus Groups:*		Date:	
Directorate Board Chair:		Date	

\* To include Diversity Action Groups

Please send this declaration to Equality Leads:

Susan Ward-Rice	<a href="mailto:susan.ward-rice@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk">susan.ward-rice@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</a>
Jane Nicklen	<a href="mailto:jane.nicklen@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk">jane.nicklen@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</a>
Kathy Boston-Mammah	<a href="mailto:kathleen.boston-mammah@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk">kathleen.boston-mammah@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</a>
Sharon Attwater	<a href="mailto:sharon.attwater@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk">sharon.attwater@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</a>

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**Dorset  
Council**

## Dorset Council Cabinet

Capital funding option for the West Bay  
Coastal Improvements Project

Date of Meeting: ... 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019

Lead Member: ... Cllr T Ferrari – Lead Member for Finance, Commercial and Assets.

Cllr R Bryan – Lead Member for Highways, Travel and Environment

Local Member(s) Cllr David Bolwell, Cllr Kelvin Clayton and Cllr Sarah Williams

Lead Officer: ... Greg Northcote Estates Manager

Appendix 1 is not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A, Part 1 of The Local Government Act 1972, as amended. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

**Executive Summary:** This Report proposes to secure a capital funding contribution towards works forming part of the current West Bay Coastal Improvements Project from the tenant of the Council's Campfield Site in exchange for granting a lease extension.

**Equalities Impact Assessment:**  
None required.

**Budget:**

Consideration should be given to Opt to Tax the Campfield Site for VAT purposes if the Council is seeking to recover VAT expended on the site.

Part of the capital premium will be recovered by the tenants after 2024 through a 7 year repayment arrangement as detailed in the Report. No interest is payable on the recoverable capital in the intervening period.

**Risk Assessment:**

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: HIGH/MEDIUM

Residual Risk LOW

There is a 1 in 50 year probability of flooding affecting properties in Forty Foot Way and the Campfield campsite with consequential financial, health and safety and reputational risks.
<b>Climate implications: None</b>
<b>Other Implications:</b> Property and Assets; Considered in detail in the Report and Confidential Appendix.  Community Safety: The recommendations assist reducing the risks identified above.
<b>Recommendation:</b> To either approve a lease extension of the Campfield Site at West Bay until 31st January 2084 on the terms described in the Report or delay implementation of this phase of the Coastal Improvements.
<b>Reason for Recommendation:</b> The proposed lease extension secures a significant capital funding contribution towards the cost of required riverbank improvements from the Council's current tenants Parkdean Resorts in return for the Council granting an extended lease for an additional 60 years on commercial terms.
<b>Appendices:</b> Confidential Appendix identifies the terms of the proposed lease extension.
<b>Background Papers:</b> West Bay Coastal Improvements - Outline Business Case. October 2018
<b>Officer Contact:</b> Name: Greg Northcote Estate Manager Tel: 01305-838268 Email: gnorthcote@dorset.gov.uk

## 1. Background and Reason Decision Needed

- 1.1 The West Bay Coastal Improvements Project is being led by the Environment Agency and is predicted to cost £10 million of which £1.2 million is the associated cost of required river bank improvements. While most of the works are funded and already include a £3 million capital contribution from Dorset Council the cost of the river bank improvements is still to be funded.
- 1.2 The West Bay Coastal Improvements Business Case states that 'The structural integrity of the Parkdean embankment along the River Brit is

low, with damage to the toe causing localised slip failures in several locations. Breaching of this embankment would lead to widespread flooding of the caravan park and backdoor flooding of properties in the town.' The Report states that a 1 in 50 year flooding event will cause a 50 metre breach to the embankment. This section of the river bank adjoining the Council's Campfield site is leased to Parkdean Resorts and was last strengthened by the Council's tenants as a condition of the grant of their current lease in 2003. The riverbank improvements are expected to reduce the prospect of riverine flooding from 1 in 50 years to 1 in 200 years. Without the improvements a 1 in 200 year event is currently predicted to flood much of the Campfield site to a depth of 1 metre.

- 1.3 The West Bay Coastal Improvements Project has already progressed through its first phase on site. Prior to the commencement of works a full public consultation exercise was undertaken.
- 1.4 Dorset Council; as the landowner has riparian rights and responsibilities to protect land and property from flooding, provided that these measures do not cause harm to others. Responsibilities of a riparian owner include the duty to maintain the banks and bed of the watercourse and any flood defences that exist on it. Dorset Council also has the right to protect property against flooding from the watercourse and to prevent erosion of the watercourse banks or any structures
- 1.4 Officers have, therefore, been requested to approach the tenant Parkdean Holiday Parks Limited (Parkdean) to establish whether they could be persuaded to make a capital contribution towards the river bank improvements. To achieve the river improvements the Project Team require Parkdean to temporarily re-site 23 units within the site for the duration of the works that are planned between 30th November 2019 and 1st March 2020.
- 1.5 Negotiations have progressed for several months culminating in an offer from Parkdean to make a capital contribution as detailed in the Confidential Appendix in return for extending the lease until 31st January 2084. The current lease of the site terminates on 31st January 2024 and is a secure lease.
- 1.6 An independent valuation has been commissioned to inform this process and the advice as to values and achievement of best consideration relative to the requirement for the capital funding contribution have been reflected in the proposed terms. The independent valuation is supportive of the Council accepting the offer

and confirms that in their opinion ‘the proposed restructure of the lease under the terms offered represent best consideration for the Council within the meaning of Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972.’

- 1.7 Acceptance of the offer will achieve a partial capital funding solution in time to allow the project team to deliver the works later this year. If Members approve this means of capital funding – and there is no obligation to do so – then the Council will seek to conclude the legal documentation in good time in order for the funding to be available. The Project Team need the funding to be in place in soon in order to commit to the contract to undertake the works, agree the accommodation works with Parkdean and ensure contractors have adequate lead-in times.

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**Dorset**  
Council

**Cabinet**

Assistive Technology

Date of Meeting: 30/07/2019

Lead Member: Laura Miller – Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health

Local Member(s): ...

Lead Officer: Mathew Kendall, Executive Director of People - Adults

## **Executive Summary:**

An options appraisal for assistive technology has been developed to drive the uptake of assistive technology within the Dorset Council area. Assistive technology, supported by a therapy-led social care approach, is an essential component of our commitment to develop an Independent Living Pathway for the people of Dorset.

**Care technology and assistive technology** refers to the use of telecare, voice activated technology and environmental and personal sensors which monitor a person's safety and well-being. Environmental sensors include smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, temperature extreme sensors which can detect fire or low temperature, and door sensors. Personal sensors include fall detectors, location trackers and medication reminders. Telecare services provide a 24/7 monitoring service which will escalate alarm activations to a named responder or, if appropriate, the emergency services.

Assistive Technology has a strong evidence base demonstrating its ability to increase wellbeing, reduce more costly health and care interventions and maintain people's independence for longer. Feedback from other local authorities has indicated that greater investment in assistive technology delivers significant efficiencies, especially in terms of cost avoidance.

Whilst Dorset Council currently commissions a range of services to promote independent living, the promotion of assistive technology has been only partially successful. Best practice from other local authorities have demonstrated the benefits of procuring a development partner to support the remodelling of the AT offer and cultural shift required to optimise success and cost avoidance.

## **Building on our strengths: Case Study**

**Client C** has a diagnosis of **Parkinsons and Dementia**. He lives with his wife, is still physically active and enjoys walks with his dog. He recently fell whilst walking alone with his dog and fell into a ditch. The dog stayed beside him which assisted him in being found.

A GPS tracking system and falls detector (Footprint) have been provided which has allowed Client C to still be able to go out on his daily walk, allowed him to remain

living at home and his wife peace of mind that he can be located, should he fall or go too far. Regular exercise has benefits to both an individual's wellbeing and reduces risks of future falls.

### **Options Appraisal**

In order to drive this, a number of development options have been considered as follows:

#### **Option 1- Status quo/Do nothing (no dedicated assistive technology service)**

Retaining our current pattern of commissioned service assumes no increase in service user numbers and churn into and out of the system is likely to see the numbers remain around 940. The impact of this will be less people supported into or maintaining independence and less system efficiencies.

#### **Option 2 – Enhanced Assistive Technology Service**

Improves uptake for existing cohorts and provides minimum risk. It does not maximise a technology first approach and is unlikely to achieve the required cultural shift towards a strength-based approach maximising independence. The offer assumes an increase to 1400 service users by the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> year of service.

**Total additional investment over 5 years £703,373**

**Gross Savings over 5 years £885,328 (consisting of actual savings and cost avoidance)**

#### **Option 3 – Transformed Assistive Technology Service**

Expands the offer to wider groups of vulnerable people and optimises a therapy led, technology first model building on strength-based approaches. The offer assumes an increase to 1560 service users by the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> year of service.

**Total additional investment over 5 years £775,877**

**Gross Savings over 5 years £1,748,000 (consisting of actual savings and cost avoidance)**

#### **Recommended Option**

As a transformational, strength-based approach for a wider population, the preferred approach is option three. The cost for the transformational model is based upon the service attributes and the increase in activity and complexity that will be seen by the service.

We propose bringing in these new capabilities through the procurement of a new AT service that will cover:

1. Assistive technology service - assessment, installation and monitoring of equipment
2. Careline provider and responder service
3. Development partner

The service is expected to be a development model to work with the successful bidder to build internal capability with assistive technology and the wider approach to benefit realisation, as well as to provide insight into new innovations and support their adoption in Dorset.

Alongside of this procurement exercise is the need to remove the current AT components from the existing contract to remove the costs that can be allocated to this new service and ensure there is one pathway and service in Dorset.

Indicative timescales for the development:

Description (what is being delivered)	by when
<b>Assistive technology options appraisal</b>	10/07/19
<b>Tender preparation</b>	05/09/19
<b>Tender exercise &amp; award</b>	15/11/19
<b>Service mobilisation &amp; go-live</b>	01/04/20

**Equalities Impact Assessment:**

Yes – as an iterative document, the EQIA will be revised as this development proceeds through procurement.

**Budget:**

The total budget for the service (Option 3) is £3,555,230 over five years, which includes the existing running costs of the service, and this can be met within the Adults existing budget. To enable the council to maximise the opportunity and maintain compliance with appropriate legislation that the estimated budget set for the formal procurement process is £4.5million over 5 years. Any additional investment will be made under delegated authority and authorised as per recommendation 4.

**Risk Assessment:**

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: MEDIUM  
Residual Risk LOW

The risks identified and how they will be mitigated are detailed within section nine of this report.

**Climate implications:**

The introduction of assistive technology may reduce the need for some home care services therefore reducing the use of vehicles.

**Other Implications:** n/a

**Recommendation:**

Cabinet is asked to approve:

1. The recommended option to proceed with option three for the development of care technology in Dorset.
2. The procurement of:
  - Assistive technology service - assessment, installation and monitoring of equipment.
  - Careline provider and responder service
  - Development partner
3. Once the tender evaluation has been concluded, that the Portfolio Holder and Executive Director for People (Adults) have delegated authority to award the contract to the successful bidder.
4. That delegated authority also be given to the Portfolio Holder and the Executive Director for People (Adults) in consultation with the Executive Director for Finance to increase the available budget, subject to compliance with procurement regulations, where clear evidence of savings and/or cost avoidance is provided.

**Reason for Recommendation:**

Commissioning services that increase wellbeing will enable the reduction and delay of more costly health and care interventions and maintain people's independence for longer.

The procurement of a standalone assistive technology service will support the delivery of cost savings and avoidance and support the overall financial position of the Council.

**Appendices:**

Appendix one- Assistive Technology- Cost benefit analysis summary

Appendix two- Assistive Technology- Cost benefit analysis summary (Restricted document and not for publication).

**Background Papers:**

**Officer Contact:**

Name: Joanne Willis, Commissioning Manager

Tel: 01305 221104

Email: joanne.r.willis@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 An options appraisal has been developed to drive the uptake of assistive technology within the Dorset Council area. Assistive technology, supported by a therapy-led social care approach, is an essential component of our commitment to develop an Independent Living Pathway for the people of Dorset.
- 1.2 The provision of assistive technology can complement a range of other care and support services to ensure people are able to live safely, have their individual needs met unobtrusively and provide reassurance to carers. Telecare can provide a lifeline to help and assistance, 24 hours a day, should that be needed.
- 1.3 The overall aims of this pathway are to enable Dorset residents to live as independently as possible, for as long as possible, through the provision of aids, adaptations and assistive technologies.
- 1.4 The Promoting Independence Pathway therefore encompasses a number of national initiatives proven to enhance population health and reduce the need for traditional care services. This can be achieved by using a strengths-based focus to any contact with an individual or their carer and ensuring timely access to information and advice.
- 1.5. The pathway offers the opportunity:
- ✓ for Dorset Council to bring about cultural and systematic change,
  - ✓ for the customer journey and our approach to service provision to move from 'reactive' to 'preventative' interventions across all our Locality services.

## **2 The Impact of Assistive Technology on Individual and Community Wellbeing**

- 2.3 There is national recognition that assistive technologies and technology enabled care (TEC) solutions can strengthen an individual's personal and community resources, allowing an individual to remain in their own home and supporting carers to fulfil their vital role.
- 2.4 There is vast evidence demonstrating how assistive technology can improve a person's wellbeing - including feelings of loneliness and isolation, as well as maintaining safety living at home. Assistive technologies can be effective in improving how a person's outcomes are met through both childhood and adulthood. Management of conditions, seeking appropriate help when required and families or communities being able to respond in a timely and effective way to risk, is key to reducing the pressures on overstretched emergency, health and social care services.

2.5 The King's Fund stated in 2018 that 'there is real scope for technology in proving cost effective for both health and social care, cutting hospital admissions, freeing up beds and saving thousands of pounds for the NHS and Councils'. The King's Fund also found that a key challenge facing the Adult Social Care sector is a lack of investment in prevention'.

2.6 Evidence from other local authorities demonstrates that focus and investment into assistive technologies services will deliver:

- improved outcomes for individuals and their carer's,
- reduced pressure on social care budgets through both cost avoidance and savings
- efficiencies across whole systems i.e. emergency services, health and social care.
- A streamlined service to all those using assistive technology services throughout the planned digital switch (from analogue to digital services) and management of the associated risks.

**Savings realised through investment in care technology:**

Hampshire County Council achieved £9.8m savings over five years.

Buckinghamshire County Council achieved £1.25m net savings in the first year of delivery.

### 3 Responsibilities under the Care Act

Since 2014, local authorities have formal responsibilities to provide care and support for older and disabled people who meet their eligibility criteria, to prevent deterioration and reduce demands on other services. *To meet the challenges of the future, it is vital that the care and support system intervenes early to support individuals, helps people retain or regain their skills and confidence, and prevents need or delays deterioration wherever possible. (Care Act Statutory Guidance, October 2018).* Assistive technology can help to enable this and can also help to make savings and avoid costs by, for instance, reducing the need for home care, enable self-care and limit instances of carer burnout.

The Act placed new responsibilities on local authorities to act on behalf of people who are expected to self-fund their own care. This is an area that Councils have not traditionally focused on. Since April 2015, councils have a duty to provide information and advice to people in their areas to enable them to plan for their care and support. There is an opportunity to deliver the requirements of the Care Act around information and advice on assistive technology options, to a substantial proportion of the Dorset population and at the same time maximise the opportunity of the self-funder market purchasing assistive technology services.

## **4 Responding to Increasing Demand**

4.1 More people are living longer, but with complex needs which require more health and social care resource. At the same time, people want to stay in their own homes as long as possible. Assistive technology can help people to manage complex health conditions, offer carer respite as well as support people with lower needs. Assistive technology can reduce the risk of unplanned hospital admissions or permanent moves into residential care.

## **5 Our current approach:**

5.1 The current assistive technology service is provided within the Dorset Accessible Homes Service, provided by Millbrook Healthcare. The provider subcontracts Medvivo as a Careline partner. The service provides, installs and maintains assistive technology equipment, including both telecare and standalone equipment prescribed by health and social care professionals. The service employs trusted assessors who are trained by the provider, Millbrook Healthcare to determine the best product to meet the person's needs. The service is provided to both adults and children; however, the majority of referrals are for assistive technology to support older adults.

5.2 Whilst Dorset Council currently commissions a range of services to promote independent living, the promotion of assistive technology has been only partially successful. In May 2019, 1878 people received a Home Care package, Extra Care package or Supported Living Service and 961 people received careline connected assistive technology products in May 2019 as well as standalone products, such as memory prompt products. Best practice from other local authorities has demonstrated the benefits of procuring a development partner to support the remodelling and transformation of the assistive technology offer and cultural shift required by our workforce to optimise success and cost avoidance.

5.3 Dorset Council has progressed the development of care technology over the past two years, through the formation of a central TEC service including the Principal Occupational Therapist, two experienced Occupational Therapists and a business support post. This has increased the profile of assistive technologies, identified new products, provided training to staff and identification of improved outcomes and savings.

5.4 An evaluation of the current assistive technology pathway has highlighted the following:

- uptake of assistive technology is still limited
- The need for an innovation partner to make the best use of advances in assistive technology to maximise benefits realisation and improved outcomes
- the need for a consistent training programme for both managers, frontline staff and wider stakeholders
- the need for consistent data and to embed a benefits realisation tool to measure the impact of assistive technology

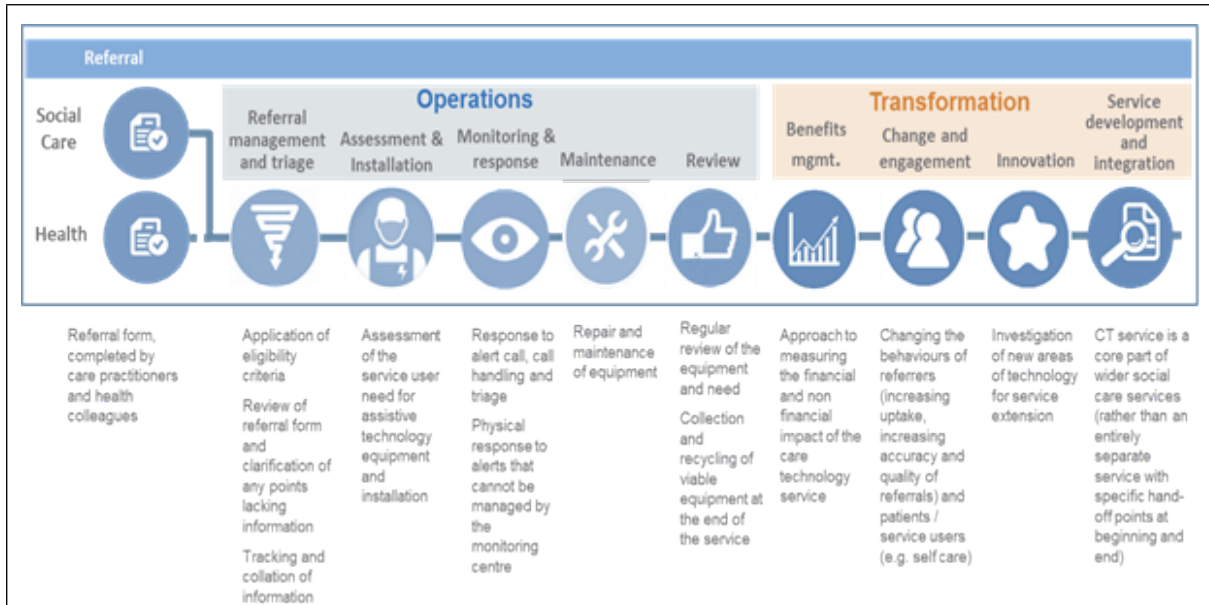
## 6 Options Appraisal

6.1 In order to drive the required increase in take up of assistive technology, a number of development options have been considered for a new service to be commissioned for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. The full cost benefit analysis for these options is attached in appendix one.

6.2 PA Consulting were engaged to develop options for service delivery supported by a cost benefit analysis of this options. The requirements that they have developed cover the procurement of an end-to-end operating AT operating model, with a best practice model set out below.

*End-to-end AT operating model (Source: PA Consulting)*

## Assistive Technology



The advice of PA Consulting, and from the horizon scanning of services elsewhere in the country, was to procure the service from a service provider rather than bring the service in house to ensure the required specialist skills can be brought to Dorset. Therefore, the options that have been developed include the procurement of an enhanced or transformational model, as well as maintaining the status quo. These three options are set out a high level against the end-to-end best practice model below.

### High level- options appraisal (Source: PA Consulting)

	Referral	Referral management and triage	Assessment & Installation	Monitoring & response	Maintenance	Review	Benefits mgmt.	Change and engagement	Innovation	Service development and integration
Option 1: status quo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Option 2: enhanced service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Option 3: transform service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Key to which service elements are delivered: Not included Included Partially included

**6.3 Option 1 -Do nothing (no dedicated assistive technology service)**

Retaining our current pattern of commissioned service will see no improvement to current assistive technology levels meaning less people supported into or maintaining independence. The offer assumes no increase in service user number and churn into and out of the system is likely to see the numbers remain around 940.

**6.4 Option 2 – Enhanced Assistive Technology Service**

Improves uptake for existing cohorts and provides minimum risk. It does not maximise a technology first approach and is unlikely to achieve the required cultural shift towards a strength-based approach maximising independence. The offer assumes an increase to 1400 service users by the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> year of service.

**Total additional investment over 5 years £703,373**

**Gross Savings over 5 years £885,328 (consisting of actual savings and cost avoidance)**

**Option 3 – Transformed Assistive Technology Service**

Expands the offer to wider groups of vulnerable people and optimises a therapy led, technology first model building on strength-based approaches. The offer assumes an increase to 1560 service users by the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> year of service

**Total additional investment over 5 years £775,877**

**Gross Savings over 5 years £1,748,000 (consisting of actual savings and cost avoidance)**

**6.5 Recommended Option**

As a transformational, strength-based approach for a wider population, **the preferred approach is option three.** We propose bringing in these new capabilities through the procurement of a new assistive technology service that will cover:

1. Assistive technology service - assessment, installation and monitoring of equipment
2. Careline provider and responder service
3. Development partner

6.6 The cost benefit analysis over the five-year period for the additional investment is set out below and would result in a gross saving of £1,748,000 and net saving of £972,123.00 within option 3. Full cost benefit analysis of the additional investment for option 3 can be found in appendix One- Assistive Technology-cost benefit summary.

6.7 The cost for the transformed model (option 3) is based upon the service attributes and the increase in activity and complexity that will be seen by the service.

6.8 The current annual cost of the assistive technology service which includes the existing running costs of the service, including the service provided by the Dorset Accessible Home Service is estimated as £555,000 for 2018/19 and forms the baseline for the existing budget. The total additional investment over the five-year period required with the recommended option can be met within the Adult budget.

## 7 Procurement Approach

7.1 The service would be subject to procurement due to the value of the contract and therefore require a five-month period for tender preparation through to award, with a four-month mobilisation period for the new service to go live from 1st April 2020.

**Cabinet is asked to approve a recommendation to delegate authority to the portfolio holder and Executive Director of People – Adults to approve the tender award.**

7.2 It is proposed that the contract period would be three years with the option to extend the contract by a maximum of two years (+one + one) to allow time for the service to fully embed with the practice of the workforce and the wider promoting independence model.

7.3 The contract is expected to be a development model to work with the successful bidder to build internal capability with assistive technology and the wider approach to benefit realisation, as well as to provide insight into new innovations and support their adoption in Dorset. The costs highlighted within the financial modelling of the options are indicative costs. These costs following market testing through the procurement exercise are subject to change.

7.4 Alongside of this procurement exercise is the need to remove the current AT components from the DHAS contract to remove the costs that can be allocated to this new service and ensure there is one pathway and service in Dorset.

## 8 Timeline

8.1 Indicative timescales for the development:

Description (what is being delivered)	by when
<b>Assistive technology options appraisal</b>	10/07/19
<b>Tender preparation</b>	05/09/19
<b>Tender exercise &amp; award</b>	15/11/19
<b>Service mobilisation &amp; go-live</b>	01/04/20

## 9 Identified Risks

9.1 The following risks have been identified with the approach and will be managed by the Programme Management team using a project management approach:

Ref	Risk / issue	L'hood	Impact	Mitigations
<b>Risks</b>				
AT1	There is risk that without a dedicated assistive technology service, users will continue to receive costly care packages and therefore cost savings / avoidance will not be fully realised	3	4	Development of AT options appraisal
AT2	There is a risk that staff do not universally take-up assistive technology, so the anticipated impact is not realised	3	4	Comprehensive engagement and training plan for staff  Strategic TEC OT roles to provide mentorship
AT3	There is a risk that there is not senior buy in for the preventative model and associated cost avoidance and therefore there is not the support for the agreed assistive technology development approach	2	3	Work with senior finance and ops colleagues on the cost avoidance approach and align agreed assistive technology development approach with cost savings board
AT4	There is a risk that the digital switch in 2025 requires additional investment to prepare user equipment	4	3	Work with service providers to prepare for switch and ensure technology is compatible.  Begin to model financial impact with new provider

## 10 Project Governance

10.1 The project is being managed through the Promoting Independence Steering Group support by a number working groups.

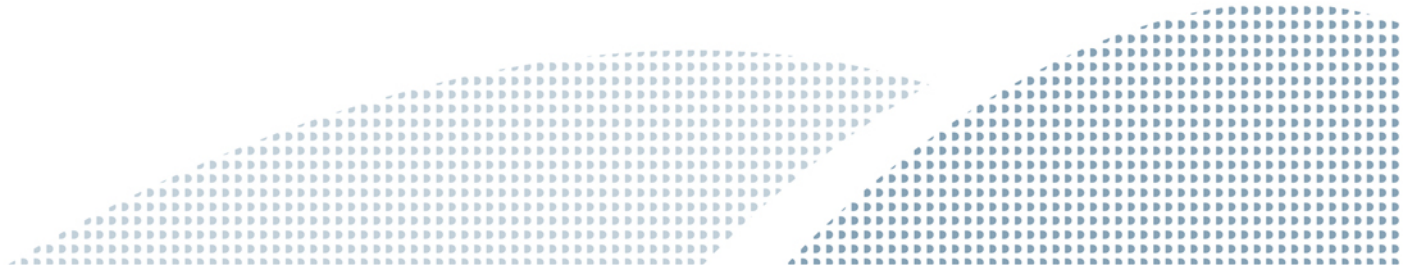
10.2 The project provides monthly highlight reports to both Adults and Community Service DMT, as well as to the corporate Change Board.



# Appendix One- Assistive Technology – cost benefit summary

15.07.2019

Final version



# Benefit Realisation Model for preferred option 3

## PA Consulting

- engaged to develop options and cost benefit analysis.
- Successful track record of working with local authorities, including Hampshire County Council. Their model includes cost saving and avoidance.

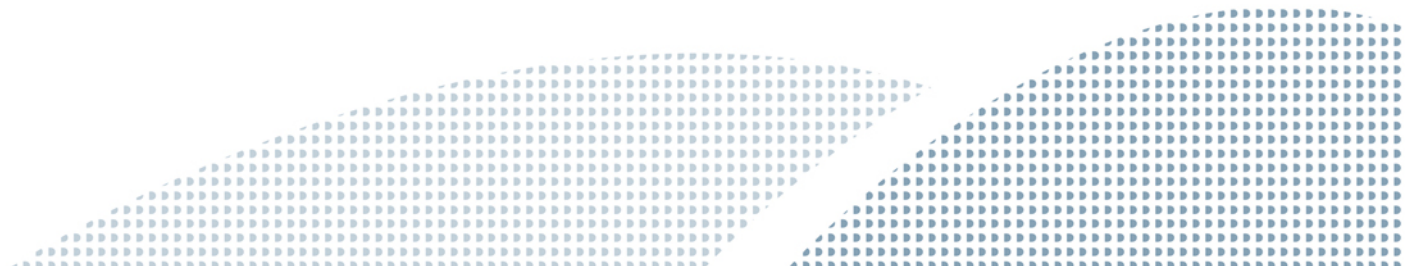
PA Consulting model is based upon the following assumptions:

- Implementation of the transformed model – option 3
- Increasing the cohort size and complexity including LD and mental health
- Savings are worked out using a model that:
  - Specifies an outcome for the cohort group i.e. LD home care reduced
  - Determines whether they are an existing service user or new
  - Makes an assumption of the number of people who will receive AT for this outcome
  - Makes an assumption about the % of users who will then realise a saving
- The cohort is older adults, LD & mental health, it doesn't include children or those not eligible for care packages.
- Evaluation has been completed to validate the modelling, along with analysis of current outcomes and savings achieved. Peer authority approaches have been included .
- The evaluation work has identified the need to procure an innovation partner to ensure that future advancements in technology are integrated in to the Dorset approach.



# Gross savings over the 5 years equate to £1,748,000- Option 3

Year	Users under status quo	Additional users	Total	Gross Savings
Year 0	961	0	961	
Year 1	961	311	1272	£ 400,000
Year 2	961	527	1488	£ 531,000
Year 3	961	593	1554	£ 373,000
Year 4	961	597	1558	£ 237,000
Year 5	961	600	1561	£ 207,000
				£ 1,748,000



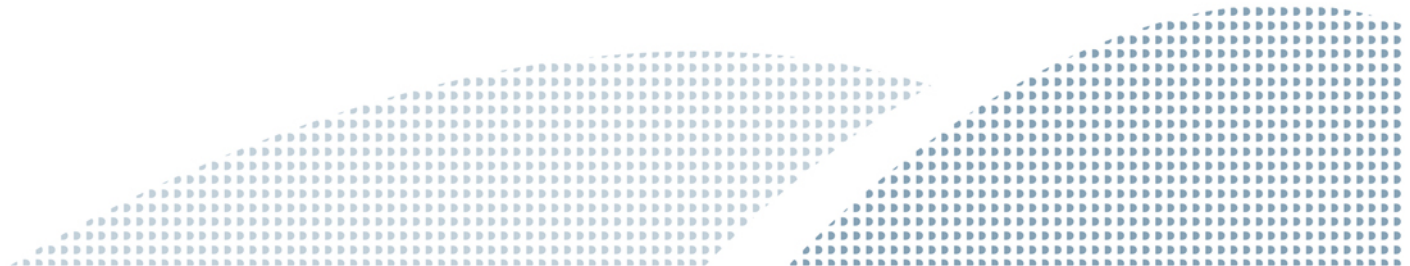
# Cost benefit Analysis - Option 3 transformed model

Year	1	2	3	4	5	Total
<b>Additional investment</b>	£170,986.00	£171,102.00	£151,368.00	£141,121.00	£141,300.00	£775,877.00
<b>Gross Saving</b>	£400,000	£531,000	£373,000	£237,000	£207,000	£1,748,373
<b>Net savings</b>	£229,014.00	£359,898.00	£221,632.00	£95,879.00	£65,700.00	£972,123.00



# Additional considerations

- The modelling is conservative and has the potential for much greater impact if properly implemented and embedded within practice at Dorset Council.
- There are further opportunities to expand into children's and the impact of extending the offer as a preventative model for non-eligible users has not been included.
- OT savings card for the first 2 months in 2019/20 has achieved £24k worth of cost savings and £219k of cost avoidance, although this covers all community equipment as well as AT.



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## Cabinet – 30 July 2019

### Recommendations from the Place Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 10 July 2019

#### 7. **Future use of Somerley Household Recycling Centre (HRC) by Dorset residents**

Members considered a report that outlined the charges that Hampshire County Council proposed to introduce for non-residents at their Household Recycling Centre (HRC) from April 2020. This report would also be considered by the Cabinet at their meeting on 30 July 2019. It was highlighted that 56% of the users of Hampshire County Council's Somerley HRC near Ringwood were Dorset residents.

The Head of Commercial Waste and Strategy highlighted a survey that had been conducted with the local residents who currently used the Somerley HRC.

He noted that whichever option was selected Dorset Council would incur further costs, either in terms of a direct payment to Hampshire County Council or in terms of consequential costs within Dorset. The recommendation to the Cabinet was that there would be no payment to Hampshire as there was no budget for it.

In response to a question from a member about the different items taken to the HRC rather than put in the kerbside bins and whether this had been considered, the Head of Commercial Waste and Strategy responded that this had been driven by Hampshire County Council and the advice to residents would be go to their own (Dorset) HRC to dispose of such items.

The Vice-Chairman made reference to the £225k income for non-household waste disposal and asked about expenditure for fly tipping across the County. The Head of Commercial Waste and Strategy advised that the costs of fly tipping would be considerable smaller and undertook to provide further information outside of the meeting. Members were reminded that income was gained from non-household waste and the responsibility of this was passed to the contractor.

Following a question about Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) at the HRC, officers advised that this was not operational at the moment but was planning to be introduced in January 2020. However, Hampshire would prefer not to use this system for Dorset residents.

One member made reference to the £60k that had been budgeted for Hampshire but to date had not been used and therefore felt there was budget provision for this service.

The Chairman invited the local members to speak:-

Toni Coombs, Councillor for Verwood advised members that she had been involved in this issue for 3 years. She had lived in Verwood since 1991 and had enjoyed free access to HRCs during this period. Cross border charging started in the London area and had a ripple effect, which continued to happen across the country. She felt

one authority should not be subsidising another authority. Recently she had attended the Portfolio Holders decision day at Hampshire County Council, whilst the decision had not changed it had been agreed there would be more time for the decision to be made. A large consultation had been carried out with over 1500 responses. The HRC was 0.9 miles from the edge of Verwood and Cllr Coombs highlighted the other areas that would be affected. She felt there would be a cost to Dorset whatever happened. She accepted there was no budget but felt that residents would have to pay twice – via their council tax and again through this. She felt the post code system would be easiest to administer.

Mike Dyer, Councillor for West Moors and Three Legged Cross, commented there would be an immediate saving if Dorset Council paid for the Somerley HRC rather than diverting the waste into Dorset. He felt there should be several lots of £60k sitting somewhere that hadn't been paid to Hampshire. He suggested there was a case for paying Hampshire a sum, akin to a form of rental for using their facility as Dorset wouldn't be building one any time soon. He made reference to the 2 year transitional period and felt that in respect of climate change the economics and moral arguments needed to be looked at very carefully.

David Tooke, Councillor for Cranborne and Alderholt, reiterated the point about climate change with additional distances having to be travelled. If there was no money in the budget where would it come from? He felt there was money tucked away for residents to be able to use the HRC and urged the Cabinet to rethink the conclusion and to start negotiating with some real effort.

The Chairman reminded members that the Council had declared a climate emergency and felt this impacted on this decision.

The Vice-Chairman highlighted the need to do what was right for the residents of Dorset. There was an opportunity if the service was subsidised to work with the new Climate Change Group and felt if the Council invested a little it could perhaps save a bit.

One member wished to challenge the assumption that out of area use would include Shaftesbury HRC. She noted that a lot of Wiltshire residents used this facility and considered if there should be discussions with Wiltshire regarding some sort of trade off.

In respect of comments made about the Wimborne HRC one member agreed it was well run but access was very difficult and was over capacity already. He felt the Council needed to look at building another HRC and that there shouldn't be a double taxation imposed on some residents.

One member commented that Verwood was not a small rural part of the county but a significant population centre and we should not pass on the pressures to Wimborne. He felt the rental suggestion was a good point. It was important that the new Council found a way that all its services were universal. He suggested looking at the Woolsbridge Industrial Estate as a potential site. Asking residents to pay would give completely the wrong message and suggested the Council paid the money for the 2 years transitional period in order to give more time for a decision.

Cllr Anthony Alford advised members that part of his current portfolio included waste and that prior to that he was the Chairman of the Dorset Waste Partnership. The

Council was now running on a very lean basis in respect of budgets. When the budget was set there was an expectation to deliver the service within budget. To suggest there was money available to meet the impact was unrealistic. There would have to be compensating savings elsewhere which could be reduced provision for HRCs elsewhere. In respect of Wimborne, he accepted that a replacement facility was needed but it would take some time.

**Recommendation**

1. That Cabinet do not follow the recommendation contained in the report but to have further discussions with Hampshire County Council in respect of Somerley HRC in order to give free access to residents for a 2 year period in order to find a long term solution.
2. That Cabinet investigate any potential for cross border income to the Shaftesbury HRC site to offset any future costs.

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Date of Meeting:	Place Scrutiny Cabinet	10 <sup>th</sup> July 2019 30 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
Lead Member:	Councillor Anthony Alford – Lead Member for Customer, Community and Regulatory Services	
Lead Officer:	Karyn Punchard, Corporate Director for Place Services (Scrutiny) John Sellgren, Executive Director for Place (Cabinet)	

Executive Summary:

This paper outlines the charges that Hampshire County Council propose to introduce for non-residents at their Household Recycling Centres from April 2020. 56% the users of Hampshire County Councils Somerley HRC near Ringwood are Dorset residents. A survey of residents has been undertaken and the findings presented along with possible impacts of options.

The impact of any decision will be closely monitored at the both the Somerley and Wimborne HRCs.

Equalities Impact Assessment:

An EqIA has been carried out (Appendix 1) and has been sent for approval to the Place Diversity Action Group. The EqIA identifies negative impacts for residents with a disability and those on low incomes.

Budget:

The Waste disposal budget includes budget provision of £60,630 for a contribution to Hampshire County Council for the operation of Somerley HRC.

There is a similar budget allocation of £70,000 to contribute to the costs of Dorset residents using the BCP site at Nuffield.

There is currently no budget to contribute to any other HRC cross border usage.

The end of free access to residents will result in increased costs to the Dorset waste budget, either directly by the council making payments to Hampshire County Council in recognition of Dorset residents using their site, or indirectly by residents changing their waste disposal and recycling behaviour.

Risk Assessment:

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: HIGH

Residual Risk HIGH

It is anticipated that there will be a high negative reputational and service delivery impact, including the impacts on the residents who use Wimborne HRC.

Payment to Hampshire County Council will mitigate the major risk. DWP can also provide lesser mitigation through ongoing education campaigns and promotion of the garden waste service in that area.

Other Implications:

Depending on the decision, the arrangements for the use of the BCP Millhams and Nuffield HRCs may need to be reviewed in order to have a consistent approach to cross border HRC usage.

There may be increased use of Wimborne HRC and therefore increased costs of waste arisings, additional traffic to/from Wimborne HRC and potential for increase in flytipping and/or burning of garden waste.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that

- a) Dorset Council do not pay Hampshire County Council in lieu of proposed charges to users of the Somerley HRC.
- b) The budget provision for Somerley HRC of £60,630 be retained in the waste budget to cover consequential costs (additional disposal costs, flytipping etc) anticipated as a result of charges being introduced at Somerley HRC. Any actual costs incurred higher than this figure must be dealt within the existing budget.

Reason for Recommendation:

- a) Dorset Council does not have sufficient budget provision for a payment to Hampshire County Council over and above the existing £60,630.
- b) Charges at the Hampshire County Council site are in line with the principle of 'polluter pays'.
- c) There is currently no budget allocation to cover any consequential costs (additional waste disposal costs at Wimborne HRC and the kerbside, and flytipping) when charges at Somerley HRC are introduced.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – EQIA as sent to Place Diversity Action Group  
Appendix 2 – Location and indicative travel times from Dorset Council's HRCs and location of HRCs Dorset resident may use outside the County  
Appendix 3 – Three and Five Mile Radii from Somerley HRC  
Appendix 4 – Respondents to the Somerley HRC survey by Postcode  
Appendix 5 – Summary of Survey of Residents  
Appendix 6 – Financial Impact Scenarios

Background Papers:

Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee 24 January 2013 – Household Recycling Centres – Cross-border usage

Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee 17 January 2019 - Public consultation for Somerley HRC usage

Officer Contact

Name: Jason Jones, Group Manager (Commissioning)  
Tel: 01305 225180  
Email: [jason.jones@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jason.jones@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) are a statutory function and councils are allowed to charge non-residents. There are currently ten HRCs in the Dorset Council area, and locations and travel times to the Dorset HRCs is shown in Appendix 2, along with the locations of HRCs in neighbouring authorities that Dorset residents can currently use (note: Salisbury HRC not shown as Wiltshire has banned non-residents).
- 1.2 There is currently no restriction on non-Dorset residents using the Dorset sites. Due to the location of the sites in relation to alternatives provided by neighbouring authorities and similar policies of charging for certain wastes, it is considered unlikely that there is any major movement of waste into Dorset, though this could be confirmed by surveys if required.
- 1.3 Currently Dorset residents use the site at Somerley in Hampshire free of charge. Hampshire County Council are intending to introduce a policy whereby only pre-registered Hampshire residents will be allowed to access their HRCs free of charge from 1 January 2020. Automatic number plate recognition will be employed to recognise pre-registered vehicles. All other users will be charged at point of access. It is understood the charge will be £5 per visit.
- 1.4 The Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) were previously approached by Hampshire County Council for a contribution to the running costs of Somerley HRC and the DWP Joint Committee of January 2013 agreed the requested amount. There remains a budget provision of £60,630 in the current waste management budget to cover the contribution.
- 1.5 Agreements for residents to use the Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole Council's (BCP) sites at Nuffield and Millhams HRCs are in place. A payment is made to BCP based on historic usage of the Nuffield site by Dorset residents and currently stands at £70,000 per annum; access to Millhams is currently free to Dorset residents based on a reciprocal arrangement whereby former Bournemouth Borough Council residents access the Christchurch HRC without charge. With Christchurch HRC passing to BCP the arrangement for Dorset residents using Christchurch, Nuffield and Millhams HRCs may be reviewed and could result in additional costs to Dorset Council.

## **2. Use of Somerley HRC and Results of Survey**

- 2.1 The Somerley HRC is close to the border with Dorset and convenient for the residents from Verwood, West Moors, Ashley Heath, Alderholt, the north of Ferndown and surrounding areas. A five-mile radius from Somerley, shown as Appendix 3, covers approximately 20,000 Dorset households. According to a recent survey undertaken by Hampshire County Council, Dorset residents makes up nearly 56% of total visits to the site. The HRC received 6,840 tonnes of waste in 2017/18 in total.
- 2.2 During February and March 2019, the DWP undertook a public survey to gather information on the usage of Somerley HRC and residents' views on the proposed changing. A total of 1586 responses were received. Appendix 4 details a map showing the location of responses by postcode.

A summary of responses is detailed in Appendix 5. Some key results show that:

- 46% of respondents visit at least once per month
- 86% of respondents are depositing bulky items that can't fit into a bin

If the £5 charge is introduced:

- 59% of respondents will add more waste to their kerbside bins
- 34% state that they are not sure what they will do

- 23% of respondents will go to a different HRC with 66% of people saying they will start to use Wimborne HRC

If charges to residents are introduced

- 39% of respondents prefer the annual permit for 6 visits per year at £15 - £20
- 31% of respondents prefer the option to pay £5 per visit

### **3. Possible Impacts of Charging**

- 3.1 Charging to residents for using Somerley HRC is likely to result in
  - increased financial pressure on low income household
  - diverting this waste to Wimborne HRC and possible reduction in recycling and/or an increase in the volume of waste which is put in residual waste bins
  - possible increase, or a perception of an increase, in fly-tipping
  - increased burning of waste
- 3.2 Wimborne HRC is already operating at capacity. Long queues and delays occur frequently at Wimborne HRC already. The site has a small footprint and closes several times a day for containers to be changed. Any additional usage of this site will impact on new and existing users and further impact on residential properties and businesses who share the road to the site. This site is single level, with users having to climb steps to gantries to access the containers.
- 3.3 The option to improve Wimborne HRC was investigated some years ago and rejected due to high costs. Waste Local Plans have recognised that a replacement HRC is needed to serve the East Dorset area but a site has not been allocated. Whilst it was not possible to identify a site in the new Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Waste Plan, this need was specifically mentioned in the Inspectors report (January 2019) which stated that the plan allows for the provision of this facility. A new HRC may cost between £3 – 5 million and could form part of a waste transfer facility to serve the east of the county. No funding is identified in any legacy capital programme for a new HRC in East Dorset. It should be noted that the provision of a new site can take several years.
- 3.4 Hampshire County Council has indicated that all options, with the exception of residents paying at the gate, are transitional for up to two years.

#### 4. Options and Estimated Costs

- 4.1 All options will incur additional unbudgeted cost for Dorset Council, either in the form of a payment to Hampshire County Council, or in the form of consequential costs such as additional disposal costs at Wimborne HRC and at the kerbside, or fly-tipping.
- 4.2 The financial impact to Dorset Council will depend on any change in waste recycling and disposal habits, which are not possible to predict with accuracy. Appendix 6 shows three alternative scenarios if residents have to pay for the use of Somerley HRC:

Scenario 1 - this is what people said they would do (based on survey results)

Scenario 2 – if some people continue to use Somerley HRC

Scenario 3 – if greater numbers of people continue to use Somerley HRC

This shows a potential financial impact of the HCC decision between £76,000 to £144,000 to Dorset Council, depending on behaviour of Dorset residents.

- 4.3 Options for Dorset Council to pay or not to pay a subsidy to HCC are set out below. Any change in behaviours are difficult to predict and may change over time as residents adapt. The following financial effects must therefore only be used as a guide of the scale of financial impact and to compare options.

Option	Description	Potential cost to Dorset Council per annum
Options where residents are charged by Hampshire County Council – consequential costs for Dorset Council:		
1	Resident pays £5 each visit	Up to £144,000 as per Appendix 6
2	Resident pays for limited permit	Up to £136,000
3	Resident pays for unlimited permit	Between £69,500 and £121,000
Options where Dorset Council pay Hampshire County Council.		
4	Dorset Council pays for residents in a limited radius	Three Mile (9,100 households): £130,500 Five Mile (20,000 households): £286,500
5	Dorset Council pays for a limited paper permit system	Up to £280,000 - £370,000
6	Dorset Council pays for an unlimited electronic permit system	Up to £540,000 - £720,000

- 4.4 If any payment is made (£130,500 to £720,000, as per options 4,5 or 6 above) this payment could offset some of the additional disposal costs identified in Appendix 6, assuming residents continue to use Somerley in the same way.

#### 5. Conclusion

- 5.1 It can be seen that the costs for Dorset Council to pay Hampshire County Council in lieu of a charge to residents is a significant cost, which is unbudgeted. Additionally, there are currently no funds identified to look at the feasibility of a new HRC site and/or site improvements elsewhere in Dorset.
- 5.2 Therefore, the recommendation is that Dorset Council do not pay Hampshire County Council in lieu of a charge to residents.



## Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Before completing this EqIA please ensure you have read the EqIA Guidance Notes

<b>Title</b>	Somerley Household Recycling Centre		
<b>Date assessment started:</b>	29 May 2019	<b>Version No:</b>	2
		<b>Date of completion:</b>	6 June 2019

### Type of Strategy, Policy, Project or Service:

Is this Equality Impact Assessment (please put a cross in the relevant box)

Existing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing, update or revision:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New or proposed:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain):	<input type="checkbox"/>

Is this Equality Impact Assessment (please put a cross in the relevant box)

Internal:	<input type="checkbox"/>	External:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Both:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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### Report Created By:

Name:	Jason Jones
Job Title:	Group Manager (Commissioning)
Email address:	Jason.jones@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Members of the assessment team:	Anna Beach, Ian Manley

## Step 1: Aims

What are the aims of your strategy, policy, project or service?
Create a policy of cross border Household Recycling Centre (HRC) usage with neighbouring authorities – there is an option whereby Dorset Council pays Hampshire County Council to maintain free access to Somerley HRC for Dorset residents. A paper is to be presented to Dorset Council Cabinet in July 2019.
What is the background or context to the proposal?
<p>Somerley HRC is provided by Hampshire County Council. It is close to the Dorset border and convenient for the residents from Verwood, West Moors, Ashley Heath, Alderholt and surrounding areas. An onsite survey carried out by Hampshire County Council suggest that 59% of users come from Dorset. Hampshire County Council have indicated that they will charge non-residents to use the site from April 2020. Dorset already pays another neighbouring authority for Dorset residents to use their facility.</p> <p>Dorset provide an alternative HRC at Wimborne – summer hours are the same as Somerley but winter hours are reduced. Wimborne HRC is however already oversubscribed with congestion and lengthy queues at peak times and when the site closes for the exchange of skips. In addition, Wimborne HRC is single level which requires residents to climb gantry steps, though the contractor is instructed to give reasonable assistance.</p>

## Step 2: Intelligence and Communication

What data, information, evidence and research was used in this EqlA and how has it been used to inform the decision-making process?

During February and March 2019 we undertook a public survey to inform usage of Somerley HRC and residents' attitudes to the proposed changing. A total of 1586 responses were received. It is believed that this provides an adequate representation, noting that a slightly higher percentage of those responding were female (55%) than the population of east Dorset (52%)  
Under-representation for under 18s (survey results 0.1%) but otherwise broadly reflects the remaining population (63.3% age from 18 to 64, 33% from 65 to 84, 1.6% are 85+, 2% prefer not to say)

This compares to profile for the area as below:

<b>All Males</b>	42,980	48.1%
<b>All Females</b>	46,400	51.9%
<b>0-15 yrs</b>	13,760	15.4%
<b>16-64 yrs</b>	47,660	53.3%
<b>65+ yrs</b>	27,970	31.3%

(source East Dorset Area Profile:

<https://apps.geowessex.com/stats/AreaProfiles/PreUnitaryAuthority/east-dorset>)

What data do you already have about your service users, or the people your proposal will have an impact on?

User survey undertaken 2019 includes user profile. Of those responding 137 (8.2%) declare a disability which includes physical disability, long term health and mental health condition.

What engagement or consultation has taken place as part of this EqlA?

User survey undertaken 2019

Is further information needed to help inform this proposal?

none
How will the outcome of consultation be fed back to those who you consulted with?
Results of policy change and mitigations will be communicated to residents via social media, newsletters, libraries and via town and parish councils, through a media strategy devised by our communication officer

### Step 3: Assessment

Who does the service, strategy, policy, project or change impact?

- If your strategy, policy, project or service contains options you may wish to consider providing an assessment for each option. Please cut and paste the template accordingly.

For each protected characteristic please choose from the following options:

- Please note in some cases more than one impact may apply – in this case please state all relevant options and explain in the ‘Please provide details’ box.

Positive Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive impact on a large proportion of protected characteristic groups</li> <li>• Significant positive impact on a small proportion of protect characteristics group</li> </ul>
Negative Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disproportionate impact on a large proportion of protected characteristic groups</li> <li>• Significant disproportionate impact on a small proportion of protected characteristic groups.</li> </ul>
Neutral Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change/ no assessed significant impact of protected characteristic groups</li> </ul>
Unclear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough data/evidence has been collected to make an informed decision.</li> </ul>

Age:	Unclear
What age bracket does this affect?	+17 (driver age plus
Please provide details:	All users of Somerley HRC and those residents using other impacted HRCs

Disability:	<i>Negative impact</i>
Does this affect a specific disability group?	Physical, long term illness, mental health conditions
Please provide details:	<p>Somerley HRC is split level so residents do not have to climb steps to access bins. Alternative HRC at Wimborne has steps to access bins but contractor has to give all reasonable assistance. However, this may not be sufficient for those with conditions that limit their ability to manage change or be away from facilities for a certain length of time, particularly in light of the increased congestion that would be caused at an already congested site.</p> <p>Those with disabilities that result in greater requirement to use an HRC but that do not wish to have increased bin capacity at the kerbside could also be adversely impacted.</p>

Gender Reassignment & Gender Identity:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	n/a

Pregnancy and maternity:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	n/a

Race and Ethnicity:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	n/a

Religion or belief:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	n/a

Sexual orientation:	Neutral Impact
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Please provide details:	n/a
Sex:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	n/a
Marriage or civil partnership:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	n/a
Carers:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	n/a
Rural isolation:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	n/a
Single parent families:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	n/a
Poverty (social & economic deprivation):	Negative Impact
Please provide details:	Hampshire County Council may charge residents direct to use HRC, adversely affecting those on lower incomes. Alternative Dorset HRC further distance causing increase costs of travel.
Military families/veterans:	Neutral Impact
Please provide details:	n/a

## Step 4: Action Plan

Provide actions for **positive**, **negative** and **unclear** impacts.

If you have identified any **negative** or **unclear** impacts, describe what adjustments will be made to remove or reduce the impacts, or if this is not possible provide justification for continuing with the proposal.

Issue	Action	Person(s) responsible	Deadline	How will it be monitored?
Poverty	The decision by Dorset Council Cabinet is a decision on whether to mitigate the issue or not.	Cabinet	July 2019	Via the decision made.
Disability	Consider additional staff at alternative HRC to assist with steps	Jason Jones	April 2020	Through existing HRC monitoring arrangements
Disability	Investigate additional operating hours for alternative sites to reduce congestion and enable assistance	Ian Manley	April 2020	Through existing HRC monitoring arrangements
Disability	Provide replacement HRC in the area, split level site with capacity to avoid congestion and queuing	Jason Jones	n/a	Subject to further discussions

## Step 5: EqIA Sign Off

Officer completing this EqIA:	Jason Jones	Date:	6 June 2019
Equality Lead:	Susan Ward-Rice	Date:	TBC 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
Relevant Focus Groups*:		Date:	TBC 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
Directorate Board Chair:		Date:	TBC 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2019

\* To include Diversity Action Groups

Please send this completed EqIA to Equality Leads:

Equality Leads:

Susan Ward-Rice

[susan.ward-rice@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:susan.ward-rice@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Jane Nicklen

[jane.nicklen@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jane.nicklen@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

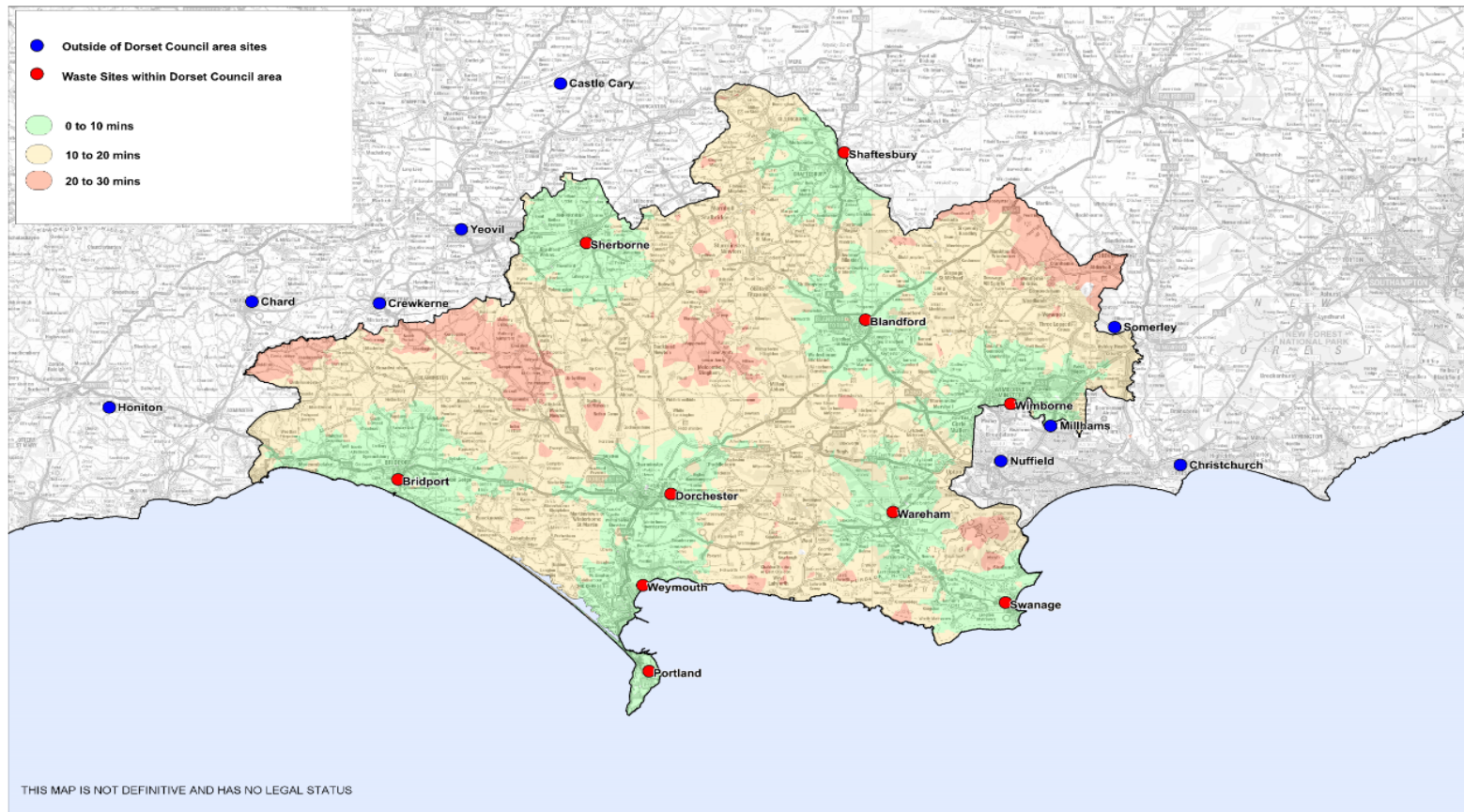
Kathy Boston-Mammah

[kathleen.boston-mammah@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:kathleen.boston-mammah@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Sharon Attwater

[sharon.attwater@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.attwater@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Appendix 2 - Location and indicative travel times from Dorset Council's HRCs and location of HRCs Dorset resident may use outside the County

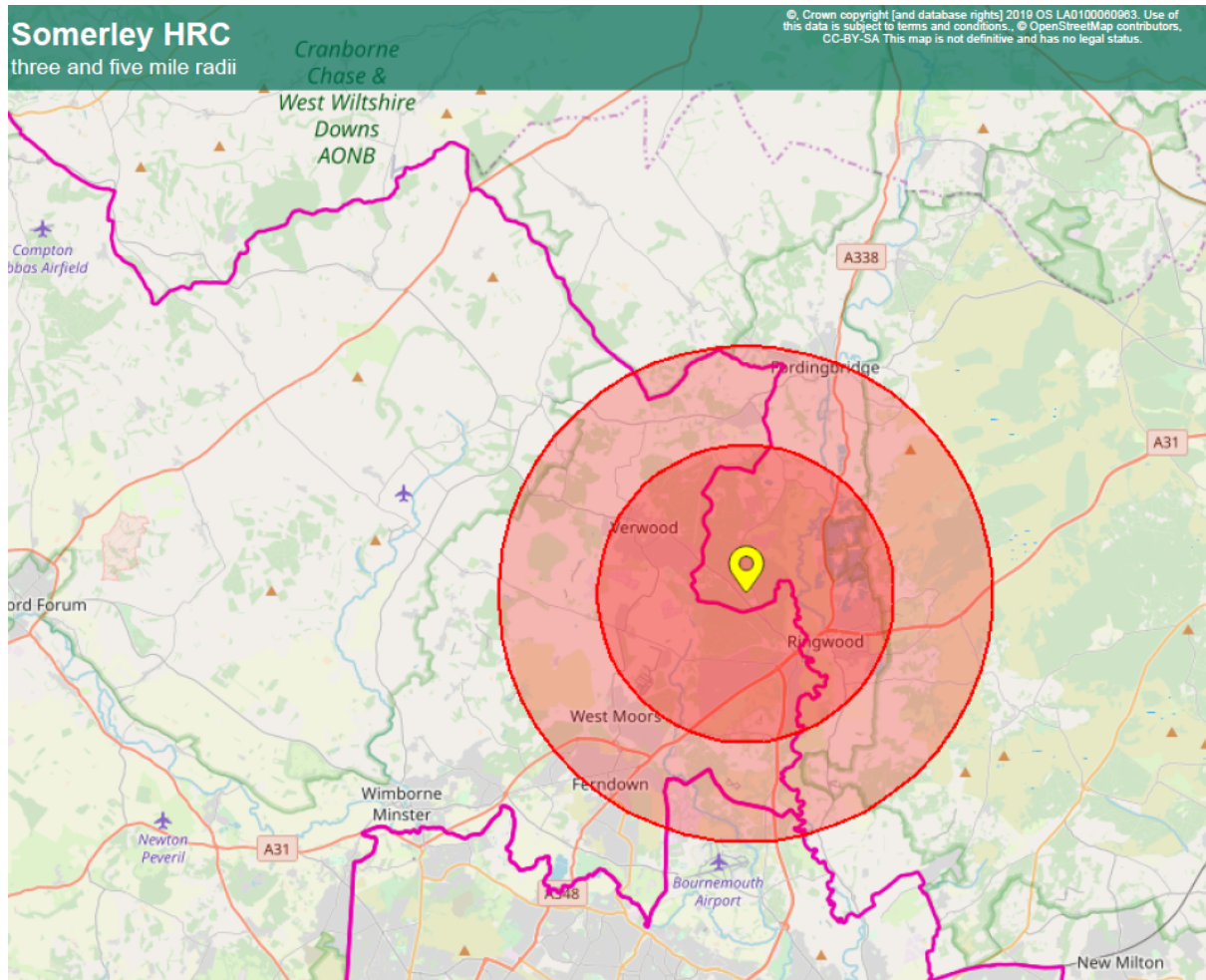


Indicative travel times from Dorset Council's HRCs and WTCs and the location of sites outside of Dorset Council area that Dorset Council residents may use

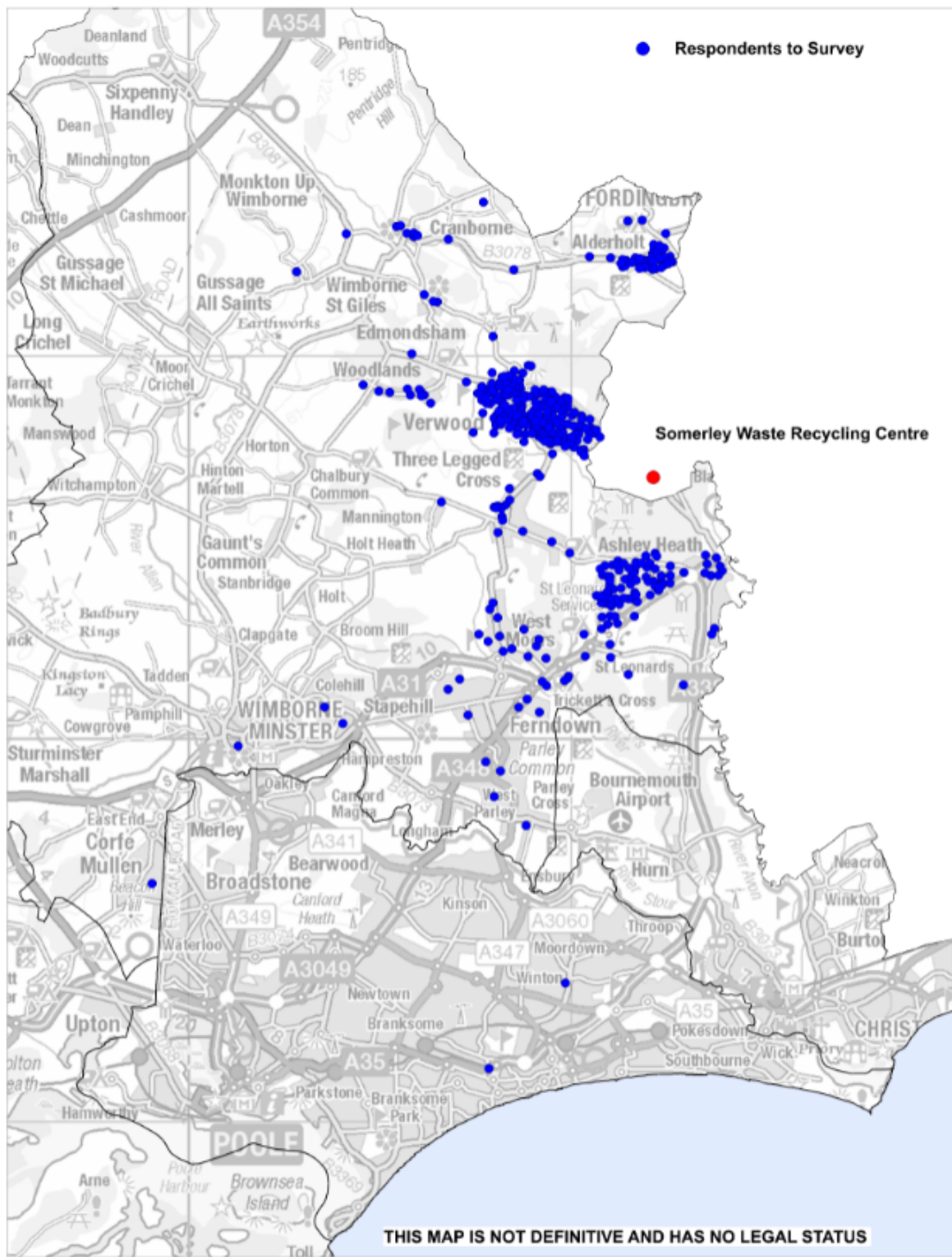
Ref:  
Date: 04/06/2019  
Scale 1:437964  
Drawn By:  
Cent X: 378240  
Cent Y: 98565



### Appendix 3 – Three and Five Mile Radii from Somerley HRC



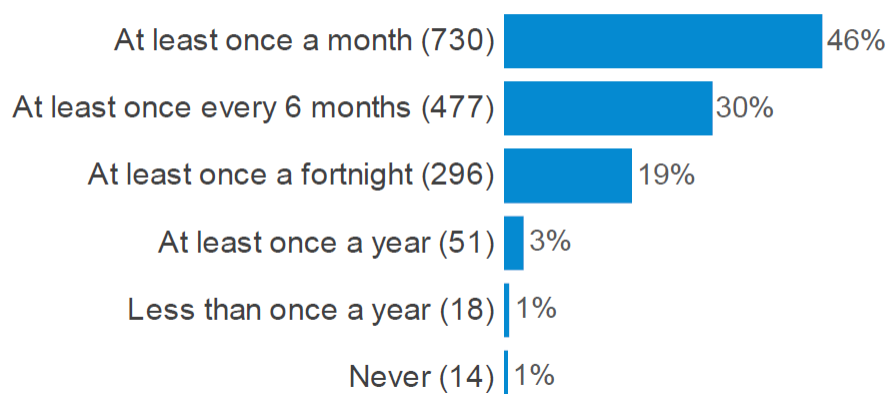
#### Appendix 4 – Respondents to the Somerley HRC survey by Postcode



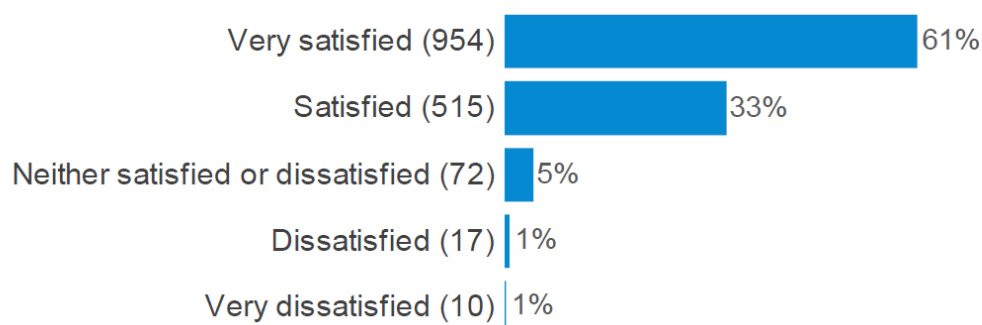
© Crown copyright and database rights 2019 Ordnance Survey 100019790.  
 You are permitted to use this data solely to enable you to respond to, or  
 interact with, the organisation that provided you with the data. You are not  
 permitted to copy, sub-licence, distribute or sell any of this data to third  
 parties in any form. Aerial Photography © UK Perspectives 2002  
 © Getmapping 2005, 2009 & 2014

## Appendix 5 – Summary of Survey of Residents

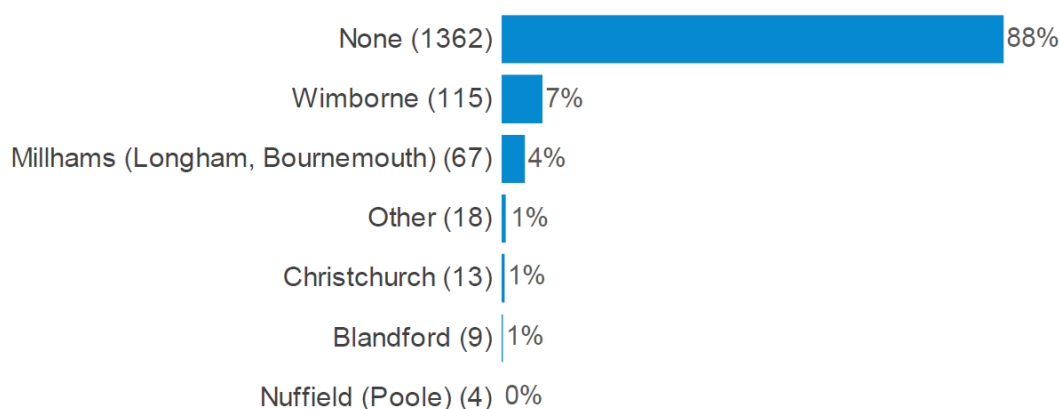
### How often do you visit the Somerley Household Recycling Centre?



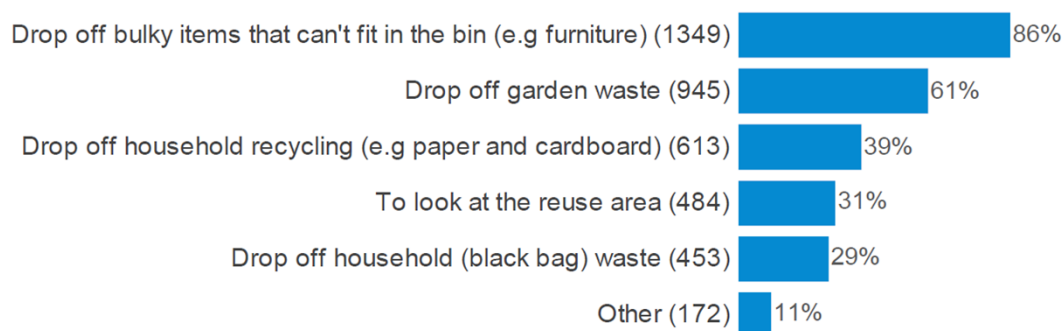
### How satisfied are you with the Somerley Household Recycling Centre? (How satisfied are you with this alternative site?)



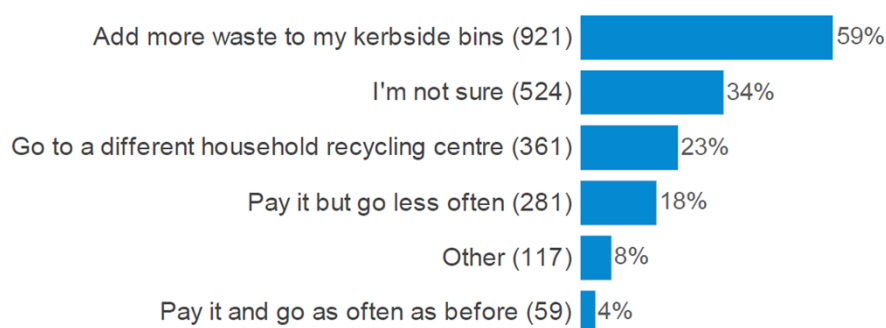
### If any, what other household recycling centre(s) do you use? (tick all that apply)



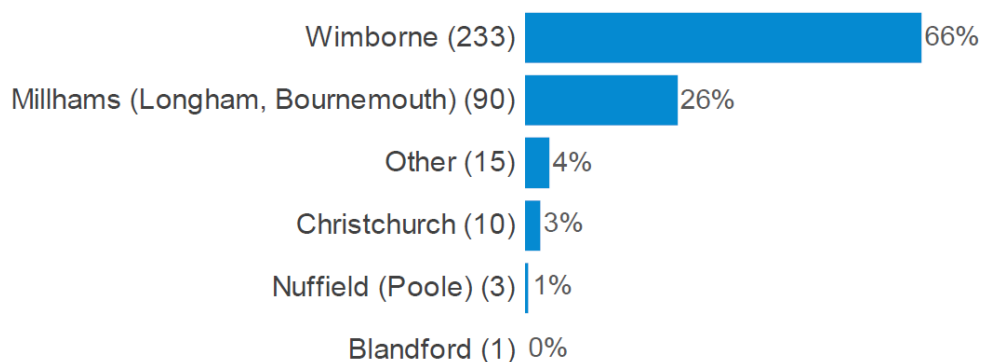
Why do you visit the household recycling centre? **(Please tick all that apply)**



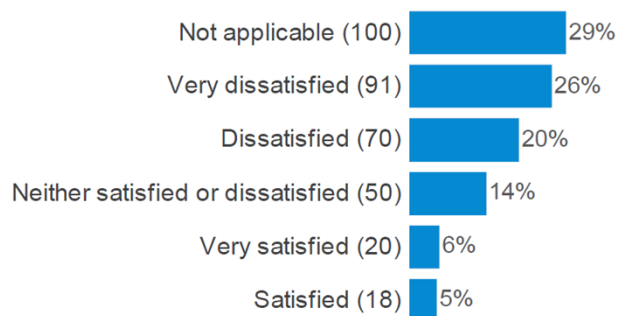
If a £5 charge for the use of Somerley is introduced, what will you do? **(Please tick all that apply)**



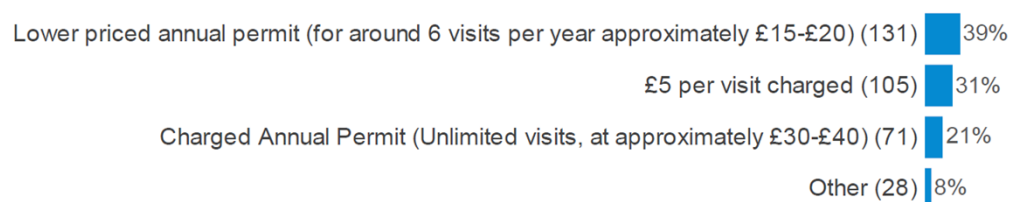
What household recycling centre will you start to use?



How satisfied are you with the alternative site? (How satisfied are you with this alternative site?)



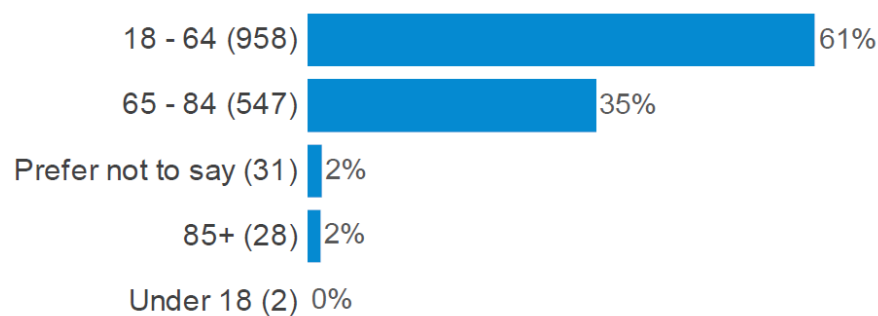
If you would like to continue using the Somerley site and charges are introduced, what would your preferred method of payment be?



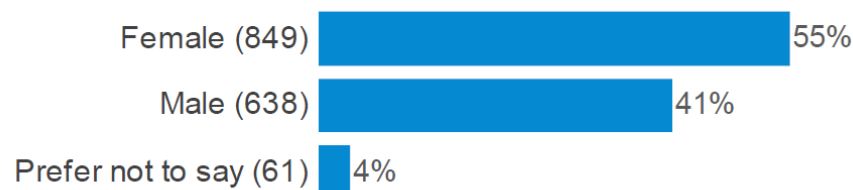
The Dorset Waste Partnership has a garden waste collection service. Are you a DWP garden waste customer?



Which age group do you belong to?



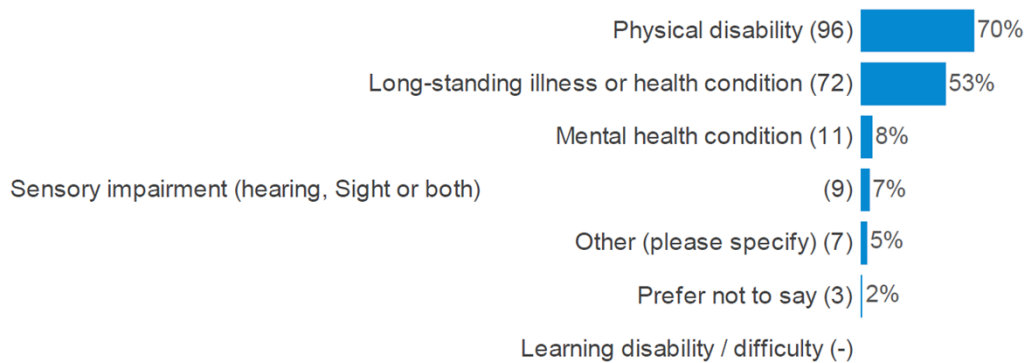
What is your gender?



Do you consider yourself to be disabled as set out in the Equality Act 2010?



If yes, please tell us which type of impairment applies to you. **You may have more than one type of impairment, so please select all the impairments that apply to you** (If yes, please tell us which type of impairment applies t...)



#### Other

mobility

I'm in a powered wheelchair 24/7 due to Full body spread CRPS

Type 1 diabetic

Peripheral Neuropathy and Restless leg Syndrome which limit my mobility.

Have two metal knees i.e. wearing out

I'm over 70 and unable to manage loading my car with much at a time - I can't risk injury or strain

Back pain

### **Summary of narrative comments received in survey**

Hundreds of narrative comments have been received. The most common responses are summarised into broad headings as below:

- A common view is that Somerley is very conveniently located, well signed, well run, and staff are helpful.
- Disposal of electrical and metal items featured in many responses.
- As an alternative to using Somerley, burning of garden waste and fly-tipping was a common response.
- Regarding use of other HRCs, most respondents did not know where other HRCs were situated, and some respondents thought that they could not use other HRCs. Some were familiar with Wimborne HRC and references to travel time and queues into that site were problematic.
- Many respondents did not feel that a charge from Hampshire CC was justified on the basis that respondents were already council tax payers.

## Appendix 6 – Financial Impact Scenarios

The three scenarios below are based on work on the impacts of HRC closure published by WRAP, Household Waste Recycling Centres Guide (2012).

### Scenario 1 – Somerley usage based on survey results

	Cost to Dorset Council (£ per annum)
4% will continue to go to Somerley HRC	£0
15% will transfer to Wimborne	£22,200
	£122,03
59% will transfer to the kerbside bin	6
22% will be managed through other means***	£0
	<b>£144,23</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

### Scenario 2 – medium usage Somerley HRC

	Cost to Dorset Council (£ per annum)
20% will continue to go to Somerley HRC	£0
12.5% will transfer to an alternative site (assume Wimborne)*	£18,500
	£101,35
49% will transfer to the kerbside bin**	2
18.5% will be managed through other means***	£0
	<b>£119,85</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

### Scenario 3 – high usage Somerley HRC

	Cost to Dorset Council (£ per annum)
50% will continue to go to Somerley HRC	£0
8% will transfer to an alternative site (assume Wimborne)*	£11,840
31% will transfer to the kerbside residual bin**	£64,121
11% will be managed through other means***	£0
	<b>£75,961</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£75,961</b>

\* Based on the cost of transport and disposal for these waste streams at Wimborne HRC

\*\*equal split residual, green, recycling

\*\*\*home composting, reuse, kerbside garden waste collection, hire of skips, mattress takeback schemes



## DORSET COUNCIL - HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE 2019

***Present:*** Rebecca Knox (Chairman), Forbes Watson (Vice-Chairman), Craig Baker, Sam Crowe, Spencer Flower, Tim Goodson, Helen Horsley, Mathew Kendall, Laura Miller, Andy Reid, Tanya Stead and Eugene Yafele

***Officers present (for all or part of the meeting):***

Marc Harris (Evidence Research Lead, Intelligent Health), Kirsty Hillier (Public Health Communications Manager), Jane Horne (Consultant in Public Health), Elaine Hurl (Principal Programme Lead Mental Health, Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group), Rachel Partridge (Assistant Director of Public Health) and Helen Whitby (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

**1. Election of Chairman**

**Resolved**

That Councillor Rebecca Knox be elected Chairman for the year 2019/20.

**2. Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

**Resolved**

That Forbes Watson be appointed Vice-Chairman for the year 2019/20.

**3. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Ben Ansell, Louise Bate, Julie Fielding, David Haines, Karen Kirkham, Patricia Miller, Sarah Parker, John Sellgren, Claire Shiels and James Vaughan.

The Chairman welcomed Councillors Spencer Flower and Laura Miller, Mathew Kendal as Executive Director of People - Adults at Dorset Council, and Eugene Yafele, NHS Provider, to their first meeting of the Board.

Members were also reminded of the importance of them completing a register of interest form in order to take a full part at Board meetings.

**4. Terms of Reference and Membership**

It was explained that the Board's terms of reference had been embraced in the review of the new Dorset Council and it had received strong support for its way of working in the future. The Council could make minor tweaks to the terms of reference but it was suggested that the current arrangements be given time to bed in. Any suggested changes could be made via the minutes and would be dealt with in due course. It was suggested and agreed that in

view of the Board's statutory role in promoting integration and prevention that (a)(iii) be amended to reflect this.

Reference was made to changes to locality arrangements and whether clinical directors and the new primary care networks needed to be part of the Board's membership. The Board could consider this once the new arrangements were in place.

**Recommended**

That the Board's terms of reference be amended to reflect its statutory role in promoting integration and prevention as set out above.

**5. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made at the meeting.

**6. Public Participation**

No statements or questions had been received from Town and Parish Councils or members of the public.

**7. Better Care Fund - Report for Q4 2018/19 and Update on planning for 19/20**

The Board considered a report by the Executive Director for People - Adults, Dorset Council, which set out the performance of the previous Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board area against the 2018/19 Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan and provided an update on planning for 2019/20 although final detailed national policy requirements had not yet been published.

Significant progress had been made last year in a number of areas - development of a joint brokerage function, alignment of budgets, joint quality approaches, successful implementation of two joint frameworks with a spend of approximately £650m over five years and joint provider market management. Plans for an integrated approach to place shaping had also been progressed but further integration of commissioning functions and the pooling of budgets had provided more of a challenge. For 2019/20 there were opportunities to take forward integration through the refresh of the Integrated Care System and the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). In summary, although improvements had been made in all areas targets had not been met and work needed to continue to improve performance.

With regard to whether performance was going in the right direction, it was explained that performance fluctuated over the year and final end of year figures are not yet available.. Once they are it would be possible to compare Dorset's performance to that of other areas and see whether Dorset mirrored national trends.

As the timetable for completion of the BCF plan 2019/20 does not fit with Board meetings, a delegation was sought to sign off the BCF plan outside of Board meetings. The Chairman added that, because of the funding involved,

she had previously consulted the appropriate Cabinet member as part of the signing off process and intended to do the same this year.

The Chief Operating Officer of the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group welcomed improved performance with regard to delayed transfers of care. The investment in primary care had improved patient flow, but peaks created pressure in the system and every part of the health and care system had a part to play in trying to prevent pressure building.

Members noted that work was continuing to prevent people being admitted to hospital in the first place, one of the key aspects being housing and the need for more suitable housing to be provided in order to prevent hospital admissions. Partners had a role to play in this.

There was a brief discussion about the need to be able to measure levels of activity and ongoing work in primary care was noted. The refresh of the STP also provided an opportunity to develop outcome measures beyond the BCF metrics.

### **Resolved**

1. That authority is delegated by the Health and Wellbeing Board to the Chair of the Board and the Executive Director for People - Adults to agree Dorset's 19/20 Better Care Fund plan update. This is in order to ensure plans can be submitted in line with the national timetable if the deadlines, once published, do not align with scheduled Health and Wellbeing Board meetings.
2. Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board will be briefed in between scheduled Board meetings if the delegation needs to be used.
3. The work to update the 19/20 plan should include refreshing the associated risks in the new Dorset Council's corporate risk register.

## **8. Suicide Prevention**

The Board considered a report by the Public Health Senior Registrar which provided an update on progress with the pan-Dorset Suicide Prevention Plan.

The National Suicide Prevention Plan had been refreshed in 2017. In 2018 the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group had brought partners together to agree a way forward and develop their own action plans and this work had resulted in greater progress being made since April 2019. The plan included six key areas - reduce suicide in high risk groups, tailor approaches to improve mental health in specific groups, reduce access to means, postvention support, zero suicide ambition for mental health inpatient settings which was linked to the national strategy, and leadership. These areas would be addressed over the period of a year.

Members noted that national data was now available and this would provide an opportunity to look at the micro level in Dorset. By September 2019 there would be a better understanding of Dorset's suicide rate and where resources should be focused. It was suggested that a further report on progress and future planning be provided in March 2020.

In discussion the importance of links between education, health, children and young people and mental health services was highlighted as was the need for clarity about who had the lead role. It was hoped that putting mental health teams into schools would help linkages in future but there was a need for a more joined up approach across the whole system. In Dorset rurality and the large ex-military population provided a higher risk of suicide so early identification of risk and early access to support was important.

One member drew particular attention to concerns in Weymouth and Portland about the lack of mental health service provision.

**Resolved**

That a further report on progress and future planning be provided in March 2020.

9. **Sustainability Transformation Plans with a focus on Prevention at Scale**

The Board considered a report by the Consultant in Public Health which provided an update on key highlights from across the Sustainability and Transformation Plan as a whole and progress on prevention at scale since the Board meeting held on 13 March 2019.

The future importance of the Primary Care Network in the delivery of prevention at scale work was highlighted as were opportunities the two new councils might provide and progress with regard to the four programme areas (starting well, living well, ageing well and healthy places).

In discussion members welcomed the fifty registered nurse degree apprenticeships as a means of growing our own workforce; highlighted the need for the Fire Service to be included in conversations relating to vulnerable people in communities; the need for prevention at scale outcomes to be measured; and social care opportunities to make linkages across the system. Reference was also made to the fact that over 25,000 people had now used the Livewell Dorset service. A reminder was given that not everyone had digital access or was digitally capable, however there is a Dorset Council digital inclusion project supporting people to build these skills, and it is less of a barrier than people believe and not necessarily age related.

**Resolved**

1. That the update on STP highlights and highlighted progress on prevention at scale be noted.
2. That the ongoing work be supported, within the Board and back in their respective organisations and communities.

10. **Our Dorset and the Long-Term Plan**

The Board received a presentation from the Consultant in Public Health on Our Dorset and the Long Term Plan.

All Integrated Care Systems and Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships in England were required to develop a five-year plan to respond to the NHS Long Term Plan which was published in January 2019. This provided a unique opportunity to integrate the Corporate Plans of the two new Councils and Health and Wellbeing Strategies so as to focus on addressing the wider determinants of health, reduce inequalities and improve outcomes for Dorset residents. The Sustainability and Transformation Plan's (STP) key features, aims and vision were explained. Engagement with staff, stakeholders and the public would take place over the Summer 2019 with the finalised plan being submitted in October 2019.

Members noted that national template guidance was still awaited but this would not change the timeline for submission of the STP. The first plan had been good but could be improved so it was important for all partner organisations to consider, contribute to and support the draft STP prior to its submission. A large engagement exercise was planned and members were encouraged to look out for it.

**Noted**

**11. Annual Director of Public Health Report**

The Board received a presentation from the Interim Director of Public Health on the Annual Report 2018/19.

The Annual Report focused on children and identified a number of measures to give every child the best start in life - smoking cessation in pregnancy, early help focus on the whole family, doubling the number of schools signed up to the Daily Mile, the sharing of intelligence to prevent exploitation and building on the mental health first aid training approach. Members were encouraged to read the report when it was published.

Members commented that the Annual Report's message was simple and made sense. It was suggested that the daily mile should be promoted by communications to encourage more schools to take part. It was also noted that many schools were doing similar activities but these were not necessarily recorded.

**Noted**

**12. Dorset Young Researchers Findings and Recommendations**

The Board considered a report by the Executive Director for People - Children, Dorset Council, which provided a summary of key findings and recommendations of the work of the Dorset Young Researchers which were relevant to the work of the Board.

The Assistant Director Schools and Learning explained that Dorset Young Researchers had undertaken a survey of a large number of young people. The survey showed that 8% of those surveyed felt they had mental health issues, that a lack of confidence seemed to underpin everything and young

people thought there was a lack of safe places. The findings would inform Children's Services future actions and decisions. The Board were then shown a video of the results of the survey.

Members were interested to see the results and in particular that young people did not want emotional wellbeing support through schools but rather from their families.

The Chairman asked that the video be presented to Dorset Council's People Overview Committee.

**Resolved**

That the video be presentation to Dorset Council's People Overview Committee.

13. **Beat the Street**

The Board received a presentation from Marc Harris of Intelligent Health on Beat the Street, a programme held in Purbeck and Poole and Weymouth and Portland with the aim of improving health and wellbeing by getting people of all ages moving.

The presentation showed the Beat the Street methodology, how it addressed health inequalities, results with regard to adult behaviour change post game and after six months, participation by children, their behaviour change, reducing anxiety levels and qualitative insight information. A further survey would be undertaken after 12 months and members were invited to submit questions to be included in this.

One member explained that schools in the Purbeck area had very limited time in which to take part and this may have been reflected in the results.

The Assistant Director of Public Health added that Public Health had wanted to be part of Sport England's evaluation of whether Beat the Street was successful. The programme focussed on the South West of England and the East Midlands. It had created a lot of competition between schools and parents at the time. The follow up reports after the game had been particularly interesting as were the experiences reported by the participants at the presentation evenings.

Mr Harris explained that a further survey of participants would be undertaken after 12 months and this would show any significant shifts in physical activity. In areas of deprivation, a stronger shift in physical activity might be seen. He was happy to share anonymous data and help with analysis. The slides would be circulated to Board members.

**Noted**

14. **Work Programme**

The Board considered its work programme.

**Noted**

**Duration of meeting:** 2.00 - 4.00 pm

**Chairman**

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