



# Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** Tuesday, 11 May 2021  
**Time:** 10.00 am  
**Venue:** This non-executive committee will be held as a virtual meeting in a MS Teams Live Event following agreement by Full Council on 4 May 2021 of relevant recommendations set out in the report 'Democratic Decision Making'

## Membership: (Quorum 3)

Shane Bartlett (Chairman), Andy Canning (Vice-Chairman), Rod Adkins, Jon Andrews, Brian Heatley, Mike Parkes, Mark Roberts, David Shortell, David Tooke and Bill Trite

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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 contact Democratic Services on 01305 252209 / [lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)**



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Due to the current coronavirus pandemic the Council has reviewed its approach to holding committee meetings. Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting and listen to the debate online by using the following link insert: [Link to view the Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee live at 10.00am on 11 May 2021](#)

**Members of the public wishing to view the meeting from an iPhone, iPad or Android phone will need to download the free Microsoft Teams App to sign in as a Guest, it is advised to do this at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.**

**Please note** that public speaking has been suspended. However Public Participation will continue by written submission only. Please see detail set out below.

Dorset Council is committed to being open and transparent in the way it carries out its business whenever possible. A recording of the meeting will be available on the council's website after the event.

# AGENDA

Page No.

## 4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

3 - 4

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

Public speaking has been suspended for virtual committee meetings during the Covid-19 crisis and public participation will be dealt with through written submissions only.

Members of the public who live, work or represent an organisation within the Dorset Council area, may submit up to two questions or a statement of up to a maximum of 450 words. All submissions must be sent electronically to [lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) by the deadline set out below. When submitting a question please indicate who the question is for and include your name, address and contact details. Questions and statements received in line with the council's rules for public participation will be published as a supplement to the agenda.

Questions will be read out by an officer of the council and a response given by the appropriate Portfolio Holder or officer at the meeting. All questions, statements and responses will be published in full within the minutes of the meeting. **The deadline for submission of the full text of a question or statement is 8.30am on Wednesday 5 May 2021.**

## Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee – 11 May 2021

### Agenda item 4 - Public Participation

#### Questions from Rob Smith, Lyme Regis Town Councillor

"The *Grid Capacity Scoping Report* which the *Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee* is due to consider on May 11th should also highlight another issue which is impacting local residents seeking to decarbonise their homes and cars.

The Government's 10 point plan for a green industrial revolution to get us to Net Zero includes installing 600,000 heat pumps by 2028.

Part of Dorset Council's role in helping deliver these aspirations and the aims of its own Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy is to facilitate these changes which will make a major contribution to cutting carbon emissions. Unfortunately, residents who have installed electric vehicle home chargers and subsequently plan to install an Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) are increasingly discovering that our electricity infrastructure is insufficient. They find themselves paying them between £300 and £3000 (additional to the cost of these already expensive systems) to upgrade the electricity supply to their homes. This infrastructure is owned and controlled by the Distribution Network Operator (DNO), in our case Western Power Distribution, regulated by Ofgem. Householders who are trying to support the government's environmental targets, should not have to foot the bill for upgrading the DNO's infrastructure.

Surely if the Government wants to encourage domestic users to adopt electric vehicles and renewable heat technology, these extra cost barriers should be removed? Will Dorset Council take a lead and lobby the relevant DNO, and Ofgem, to absorb this cost themselves, to remove this significant financial burden for residents who are already planning to make a substantial investment in support of the government's and the council's targets?".

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