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CABINET

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2022

Present: Cllrs Spencer Flower (Chairman), Peter Wharf (Vice-Chairman), Graham Carr-Jones, Ray Bryan, Tony Ferrari, Laura Beddow, Andrew Parry, Gary Suttle and Jill Haynes

Apologies: Cllrs David Walsh

Also present: Cllr Cherry Brooks, Cllr Simon Christopher, Cllr Les Fry, Cllr David Gray, Cllr Brian Heatley, Cllr Sherry Jespersen and Cllr Carole Jones

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

Matt Prosser (Chief Executive), Aidan Dunn (Executive Director - Corporate Development S151), Jonathan Mair (Director of Legal and Democratic and Monitoring Officer), John Sellgren (Executive Director, Place), Kate Critchel (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Vivienne Broadhurst (Executive Director - People Adults), Jennifer Lewis (Head of Strategic Communications and Engagement) and Jonathan Price (Interim Corporate Director for Commissioning)

75. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

76. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest to report.

77. Public Participation

There was 1 question and 1 statement from the public. These are attached at Appendix 1 to these minutes.

78. Questions from Councillors

There were no questions from councillors to report.

79. Forward Plan

The draft Cabinet Forward Plan for December 2022 was received and noted.

80. Quarter 2 2022/23 Financial Monitoring Report

The Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy presented the report and proposed its recommendation. The Portfolio Holder advised that since

Quarter, officers had work to reduce the rate of overspend and at the end of quarter 2, the Council was forecasting net budget pressures of £7.8m. Further measures should reduce the rate of net spend in the second half of the year.

2022/23 continued to be a challenging time for local government with inflationary and demand pressures impacting on income and expenditure. All directorates were working to make further reductions and prepare for the 2023/24 budget setting.

Cllr J Haynes seconded the motion.

In response questions, the Portfolio Holder and the Executive Director for Corporate Development advised that: -

- In respect of the Dedicated School Grant, officers had met with the Department of Education to discuss this matter and they had asked the council to present a recovery plan and were open to whether the timescale of the agreement maybe able to be extended.
- In respect of the contingency fund, the Executive Director confirmed that a detailed response would be forwarded to the councillor concerned. However, he acknowledged that financial pressure had been experienced in the areas of the Pay Award and home to school transport.
- In respect of the sundry debt, it was confirmed that other methods of collections were being considered and there would be a balanced judgement some of the debt being written off.

Decision

- (a) That the Senior Leadership Team's forecast of the full year's outturn for the Council, made at the end of Quarter 2 including progress of the work to deliver savings that were incorporated into the budget, be noted.
- (b) That the spend to date on the approved capital programme for 2022/23 and the likelihood of significant slippage alongside the risk of inflation, interest rates and delivery concerns, be noted.
- (c) That the impact of financial projections for 2022/23 on the developing budget strategy and Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP), be noted.
- (d) That the commencement of a procurement process for an insurance protection contract be agreed and the subsequent decision to award the contract be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy, in consultation with the Executive Director, Corporate Development.

Reason for the decision

The Council has responsibilities to deliver its corporate plan priorities and it must do this within the resources made available through the revenue and capital budgets for 2022/23. This report summarises the Council's forecast financial performance for the year at the half-way point.

81. **Wild Woodbury Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace**

In the absence of the Portfolio Holder for Planning, the Deputy Leader set out the report and proposed the recommendation. The report sought a decision for grant funding £895,034.98 to Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) of heathland mitigation funds collected via the Community Infrastructure Levy to allow delivery of the SANG.

In seconding the proposal, Cllr R Bryan advised that letters had been forwarded to the central government in respect of the continuing damage to the heathland by wildfires, in relation to portable bar-b-ques. He was asking ministers to consider legislation in order to protect the natural environment.

Decision

- (a) That Dorset Council enters into a funding agreement above £500,000 (£895,034) with Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) to deliver 12.5 hectares of strategic Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) for heathland mitigation.
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Planning to enter into a contract funding agreement for DWT to deliver the Wild Woodbury SANG should be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Planning on terms to be recommended by the Executive Director of Place.

Reason for the decision

Cabinet was required to consider all key decisions with financial consequences of £500,000 or more. The project formed part of the Heathland Interim Mitigation Strategy for the emerging Purbeck Local Plan which was currently undergoing an examination into its soundness.

The project had been considered and approved by the Heathland Mitigation Steering Group which includes representatives from Natural England.

82. **Pimperne Neighbourhood Plan**

The Portfolio Holder for Culture, Communities and Customer Services presented the report on behalf of the Planning Portfolio Holder. Members were advised that the neighbourhood plan review had been subject to independent examination and the examiner had recommended that the Council should make (adopt) the plan with the modifications specified in his report.

The recommendation was proposed by Cllr L Beddow and seconded by Cllr A Parry.

Members took the opportunity to congratulate Pimperne Parish Council and members of the Neighbourhood Plan Group in producing a successful neighbourhood plan review.

Concerns were expressed around the delay of the new Local Plan and the consequence to the five-year land supply, which was impacting on planning committee decisions. In response, the Chairman indicated that he had written to the minister concerned seeking flexibility on the five-year plan for land supply for Dorset.

Decision

That the revised timetable for the production of the Dorset Council Local Plan, the Minerals Plan, the Waste Plan and various Neighbourhood Plans within the Local Development Scheme be acknowledged and that it will come into effect as of the date of this committee (1 November 2022).

Reasons for decision

To formally make the neighbourhood plan review part of the statutory development plan for the Pimperne Neighbourhood Area. In addition, to recognise the significant amount of work undertaken by Pimperne Parish Council and members of the Neighbourhood Plan Group in preparing the plan review and to congratulate the Council and Group on their success.

83. **Dorset Council 20mph speed limit process and Guidance**

Cllr S Gibson, Lead Member for Highways presented the report and the recommendation from the Place and Resources Overview Committee of 6 October 2022.

The Portfolio Holder for Highway, Travel and Environment proposed the recommendation, and this was seconded by Cllr G Carr-Jones.

Members spoke in support of the proposal and the Portfolio Holder confirmed that a policy review would take place after a year by Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee. The Chairman of Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee also requested that an update report be presented to the committee after 6 months of operation. In response Chairman suggested that this should be discussed outside of the meeting.

Decision

- (a) That the policy for setting the principles, criteria, and process for 20mph schemes, as amended below, be approved.

“That the wording in Appendix B, relating to the requirement to undertake a survey of residents and the requirement to have a threshold level of support of 60% from the respondents of households affected by the proposed 20mph scheme, should be removed, and changed to ‘must be able to demonstrate and quantify community support for the initiative’, to be in line with the wording of ‘criteria c’”

- (b) That the policy be reviewed 1 year after adoption.

Reason for decision

To ensure speed limit consistency across Dorset.

84. Dorset Council Plan Priorities Update: Adult Social Care

The Portfolio Holder for Adults Social Care and Health addressed the committee on the progress in adult social care.

The written statement is attached at Appendix 2 to these minutes.

85. Portfolio Holder /Lead Member(s) Update including any Policy referrals to report

The Portfolio Holder updates are attached at Appendix 3.

86. Urgent items

There were no urgent items considered at the meeting.

87. Exempt Business

There was no exempt business.

Appendix 1 Public Participation

Appendix 2 - Dorset council Plan Priorities Update: Adult Social Care

Appendix 3 - Portfolio Holder Reports

Duration of meeting: 10.00 - 11.10 am

Chairman

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Public Participation – Cabinet 1 November 2022

Question from Philip Eades

I note from an answer given at Cabinet 27 May 2022 that the Council identified 44,000 non-direct debit Council Taxpayers in Bands A to D who are entitled to the £150 rebate this financial year

How many of these 44,000 have been paid their £150 and what publicity has the Council undertaken to ensure these Council Taxpayers claim their money? Were all 44,000 written to individually to advise of their eligibility for this £150?

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy

Response

The council paid the £150 rebate to 41,740 non-direct debit customers. The 44,000 quoted was a slightly earlier estimate of how many non-direct debit payers there were with entitlement to the sum, at the time. All non-direct debit customers were written to on 19 May 2022, to be informed they were potentially entitled to the sum. There was also a social media campaign to encourage applications, Citizens Advice Bureaux promoted take up and there was also information on the Council's website.

Of those contacted 26,499 made an application and were paid the £150. The 15,241 who did not respond to the letter were awarded the £150 by way of a credit to their council tax account so they did not lose out on the payment. In each case where a customer's council tax account was credited, a letter was sent to them on 15 September 2022 to confirm this.

In total there have been 120,971 awards of the £150 totalling £18,145,650.

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Dorset Council Cabinet meeting 1st November 2022

Statement from Dorset Wildlife Trust

Wild Woodbury Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG)

Dorset Wildlife Trust is extremely grateful for the funding from both BCP and Dorset Councils, through Poole Harbour nutrient mitigation payments, that funded the acquisition of 150 hectares of land at Court Farm Bere Regis, now referred to as Wild Woodbury. We have already in a year seen the results of changed land management that has allowed nature recovery on the site to start. We have also established monitoring programmes that will demonstrate over time the impact of change on soil and water quality.

As well as the benefits for wildlife, water, soils and climate on the site, we aim to develop strong connections with the community and to provide open access to those parts of the site closest to Bere Regis. Designation of 12.5 hectares of the land as a Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace, alongside the capital and long term funding being discussed today, will enable that.

In developing this programme, we have consulted extensively with the community, including attending a village meeting, where there was overwhelming support for the project, consultation on the name of the site, regular liaison with the Parish Council, involvement of Bere Regis school, drop-in days attended by 130 residents and an online consultation. These have all informed the SANG delivery plan which we have worked up with Dorset Council and Natural England, and we are therefore confident that it will have a high level of local support.

As part of the plan, accessibility to the site will be hugely improved from a baseline of the current rights of way, and access for people with limited mobilities will be enabled as far as practicable. The funding will enable creation of dedicated car parking, though many visitors will be expected to come from the village as well. At the entrance to the site pedestrian and vehicular traffic will be separated through the reinstatement of a previous pedestrian route. Whilst encouraging healthy lifestyles and good mental and physical health through time spent in nature, we also hope to be able to offer more formal green prescribing at the site in conjunction with health services.

Dorset Wildlife Trust has for many years helped inform and strongly support the Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework. As owners and managers of several heathland sites which are impacted by recreational access, including Upton and Winfrith Heaths, we fully understand and support the need for SANGs and their aims to attract people away from internationally important heathland reserves where recreational pressures are harmful to protected habitats and species. At Wild Woodbury the



Dorset
Wildlife Trust

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SANG plans are entirely complementary to and will be delivered in tandem with wildlife recovery plans that are funded from separate sources.

We will continue to encourage visitors to support local businesses including the pubs and shop in the village, whilst developing plans for future use of the redundant farm buildings. These are at their early stages but which will be designed to complement public and community use of the site and SANG area.

Finally, and for the avoidance of doubt, plans have been worked up on the basis that the funding amount is exclusive of VAT, should VAT be found to be chargeable.

Thank you for listening

Imogen Davenport
Conservation Director – Nature-based Solutions
Dorset Wildlife Trust
idavenport@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk

Adult Social Care – Cabinet Update November 22

- We've set out before our ambition to help residents of Dorset live 'A Better Life'. We are now starting to shape the strategies which show how we intend to do it, and with a particular emphasis on those who need most support. At its heart, we want more of our residents to stay living within their communities, connected to the things and people who matter to them, and with good early information, advice and support when it can help them. And, of course, the right levels, types and quality of care services available when they are needed.
- We are looking at a potential 7% year-on-year increase in people coming forward in need of care and support. It means we need to continue working with our community partners to intervene earlier, where we can, to prevent or delay people needing intensive help or reaching a crisis point. Focused work with all partners on prevention and reablement will support our individual residents but also help prevent a call on the wider Council budget over the next 3-4 years by supporting self-funders in our community.
- As well as supporting the over 65 years population in Dorset, ASC also provides services and supports people between the ages of 18-65 with complex and enduring needs which includes 890 with a Learning Disability, 208 people with Mental Health conditions and 329 people with a Physical Disability, this cohort often have complex needs requiring 24/7 support and specialist accommodation. Since Cabinet approved the implementation of the new commissioning framework in April 2022, we have built 98 providers registered to deliver care and support for working age adults, of which 50% are new to Dorset Council. This step forward means that we now have new capability which also includes options to commission services jointly with Health and Children's services to better support young people approaching 18.
- It is worth noting the directorate has been successful in delivering £9.6m in savings to date from 2020/21 with a further £1m expected by end of this financial year. We can do this, but as the needs increase, then so does our challenge.
- The Government's reform agenda sets a 10-year vision for support and care in England. This is a significant programme of work, and we will need to adapt and change the way in which we work. Through working as a partner in the Integrated Care System as set out in the reform agenda there is an opportunity to revisit how social care is delivered and how local authorities work with public health and community organisations alongside wider health partners. We have refreshed our A Better Life Programme to ensure it meets this agenda alongside delivering improved quality within our financial envelope.
- The Local Government Association (LGA) & County Councils Network (CCN) have recommended a delay to the Secretary of State on the implementation of the charging reforms, and whilst we await confirmation of this, we continue to work on the assumption other elements of the reform programme will run to plan. Some of the Government reforms will significantly drive new demand to the front door of the council.
- Adult Social Care is working with the system to tackle the ongoing challenges due to high demand still present on hospital discharge and managing high risk in the community with limited care availability and significant cost pressures. Winter Plans are being actively worked on with partners to support the deficit in workforce availability and increasing high demand, both immediate and medium term. It is certainly a challenging time for Adult Social Care, and we are working hard to set a budget for next year that is within the councils budget envelope.
- Care Dorset Ltd went live on 3 October following a significant amount of work, and a successful transfer of services and staff from Tricuro Ltd to Care Dorset. Care Dorset will play a significant role in developing our market sufficiency. This will see an increase in our community reablement offer including additional investment and

building stronger links with the Voluntary and Community Sector and Technology Enabled Care prescribing. We are working with Care Dorset to make a series of interventions to meet market shortfall and stimulate better quality and options that will provide better outcomes for individuals.

- Parallel work is underway with the long-term home care provision where we are piloting different ways of contracting and introducing greater trusted assessment.
- As part of building these partnerships with providers, and as a result of the government fair cost of care exercise, we have supported this move in year through use of Reform Grant and NHS funding with providers receiving an uplift to a fairer cost of care rate which will help to promote business longevity and sustainability.
- The birth to settled adulthood programme is progressing well. The service re-design element is progressing with plans to identify improvements for preparation for adulthood and a seamless transition for our children and young people.

All of the above has been delivered at a time when the system has been under enormous pressure with increasing health and care needs, acute hospital demand, finite workforce, inflationary pressures and the cost-of-living crisis.

Our data tells us over the next 10yrs:

- People **aged 65 and over will rise by 23%** in 2032
- People aged 85+, **will increase by 480 people per year**
- People with a **learning disability in Dorset** to rise by **33% by 2032**. Dorset reports long term Mental Health problems, which is higher than the national average.
- There are 7092 people living with dementia in Dorset – this will **increase to 9000 by 2032**.
- A rise of **38% in the demand for home care by 2032**.
- A **16% increase** in the need for short-term community support services.
- Today there are **300 people** who have been assessed who are waiting for a care.
- There are **35 people a week** leaving hospitals who require Council funded care.
- A finite workforce available – **growth in supply is outweighed by growth in demand**
- Pressure in the Market with **providers carrying large debt, pension and equity issues**
- There **is a significant unmet need for accommodation with care**, including extra care, recovery & rehabilitation and supported living

To help address the increasing demand the directorate have mapped a 10yr plan which brings together Transformation, Investment & Reform. The programme will focus on 4 key pillars:

1. Ensuring demand is short term where appropriate with a successful prevention model at the heart. To help address the increasing need at to our front door and make sure people have the right information, advice and guidance and bolster our community support. We will also roll out a Technology Enabled Care (TEC) programme that can help offer solutions to aid care and support to help residents remain independent in their own environments for longer.
2. Meet need more sustainability, where we will develop an accommodation with care programme which improves our extra care, supported living and reablement and recovery services. We will also look to develop the Integrated Care System, working closely with health and other partners on whole market intervention

3. Delivering sustainable Care at a sustainable cost, where we will deliver the market sustainability plan and fair cost of care exercise to help support the marketplace. We will continue onboarding providers to the Dorset Care Framework and continually review spend on packages in commissioned care across Residential & Nursing Care, Supported Living, Home Care, Extra Care and partner spend to ensure best value for money.
4. Assure care and support is quality care, where we will deliver the annual assurance framework including inspection regime from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and develop ambitious plans to support getting the right workforce in to care.

The programme will improve outcomes for the people of Dorset and will help to deliver good quality support and financial sustainability with greater grip and control on spend. We want to deliver a thriving marketplace with greater sufficiency and control; an effective and efficient workforce; A fully integrated ICS with better flow, including those from hospital; Improved accommodation with support offer with greater choice for our residents and effective demand management plans through an enhanced prevention model.

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PORTFOLIO HOLDER/LEAD MEMBER UPDATE SUMMARY

PORTFOLIO:¹

Culture, Communities & Customer Services

CABINET DATE:²

1/11/2022

KEY ACTIVITIES SINCE THE
LAST REPORT:³

Member webinar – Library consultation part 2

‘Summer Sofa Sessions’ comms outreach programme review and planning for next summer

Annual DAPTC clerks conference

Briefed MPs on cost of living support provided to residents by Dorset Council

LGA overview and scrutiny peer review interview

Meeting with Kent County Council to share our learning on community libraries

Briefing on Dorset Music Service and wider opportunities

Engagement on Dorset History Centre – Parchment and Pixels

Community grant funding panel round 4

Fortnightly meetings;

Cost of living group

Connected communities work

Dorset Together

Food Security group

¹ Enter the portfolio area

² Insert the date of the Cabinet meeting to which this summary update is to be reported

³ Provide brief details of the meetings attended, key activities or project milestones completed since the last report

**DELEGATED DECISIONS
MADE:⁴**

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**ANTICIPATED
ACTIVITIES/MILESTONES
FOR NEXT PERIOD:⁵**

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⁴ Enter details of any delegated decisions made since the last meeting

⁵ Provide details of key activities, project milestones or significant meetings anticipated in the next period

PORTFOLIO HOLDER/LEAD MEMBER UPDATE SUMMARY

PORTFOLIO:¹

Children, Education, Skills & Early Help

CABINET DATE:²

1.11.22

KEY ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST REPORT:³

Cllr Parry, Kerby & Quayle where delighted to be invited to visit to The Blandford School an opportunity to meet with Governors, Teachers, Staff & Pupils.

Official Opening of “College House” Children’s Home & The at 45 Dorchester Road. “Ribbon Cutting” performed by Cllr Parry (Cabinet Member) & Cllr Wheller (Chair of Corporate Parenting)

Dorset Virtual School Governing Board Meeting inc appointment of new governor Kate Venables

Pineapple Project – keeping our streets safer. Pilot will be in Weymouth with launch event scheduled 1st November 2022.

DELEGATED DECISIONS MADE:⁴

Appointment of Corporate Director for Education & Location – Amanda Davis

ANTICIPATED ACTIVITIES/MILESTONES FOR NEXT PERIOD:⁵

¹ Enter the portfolio area

² Insert the date of the Cabinet meeting to which this summary update is to be reported

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⁴ Enter details of any delegated decisions made since the last meeting

⁵ Provide details of key activities, project milestones or significant meetings anticipated in the next period

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PORTFOLIO HOLDER/LEAD MEMBER UPDATE SUMMARY

PORTFOLIO: ¹	Corporate Development and Transformation
CABINET DATE: ²	1 st November 2022
KEY ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST REPORT: ³	<p>Informal Cabinet Asset Strategy Board Festival of the Future (running for 5 days attended 3) Further detail on CPPI financial data reference performance board Leadership Performance board Regular update with Executive director for corporate service Updates on HR and recruitment matters Cabinet Meeting on next steps for Digital Place Meeting with Chief exec regarding recruitment Full Council and present refresh of council plan Interviews for corporate director for finance Staffing Committee</p>

¹ Enter the portfolio area

² Insert the date of the Cabinet meeting to which this summary update is to be reported

³ Provide brief details of the meetings attended, key activities or project milestones completed since the last report

DELEGATED DECISIONS
MADE:⁴

None

ANTICIPATED
ACTIVITIES/MILESTONES
FOR NEXT PERIOD:⁵

Ongoing Performance Management processes as next steps for the council to include benchmarking on both performance and financial spend and aligned to the delivery plan for Corporate Plan
Further work on timeline for transformation bids
New T's & C's for Dorset council awaiting more EQIA data before union ballot
Reporting of abuse to staff and training
Wash up for Festival of Future and review of next steps
Final decision on bids for front of house and committee room refurbishments
Further work on gigabit roll out
Budget Café and work on savings

⁴ Enter details of any delegated decisions made since the last meeting

⁵ Provide details of key activities, project milestones or significant meetings anticipated in the next period