

Date of committee: 28 March 2023

Date published 29 March 2023

Date of implementation: 6 April 2023

**DECISIONS OF THE CABINET  
28 MARCH 2023**

The following decisions were made by the Cabinet on 28 March 2023 and will come into force and may be implemented on xxx unless the decision is called in for scrutiny.

In accordance with the council's constitution, any six members of the same relevant Scrutiny Committee may request the Monitoring Officer to 'call-in' a decision for scrutiny. The Monitoring Officer will be provided with written notice that will identify the decision to be called-in and the ground for the call-in when the request is made. If satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for the proposed call-in, the Monitoring Officer will notify the decision-maker of the call-in within 5 clear working days. The deadline for this request is **5 April 2023**.

The full call-in procedure is set out in the Constitution or for further information and advice please telephone Kate Critchel on 01305 252234

## **7 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/2024 - 2026/2027**

- (a) That the capital strategy as set out in appendix 1 and the capital programme set out in Appendix 2 be agreed.
- (b) That the impact on the Medium-Term Finance Plan be noted.

### **Reason for the decision**

The Council approved the capital strategy and a capital programme budget on 14 February 2023 and at this meeting noted that a refreshed list of capital programme would be reported to this Cabinet.

Capital expenditure has an impact on the revenue budget, and so members should be aware of the financial implications to the revenue budget when agreeing the Capital Programme.

## **8 SWANAGE CAPITAL ASSET TRANSFER**

- (a) Cabinet noted and supported the opening of a national exemplar for Family Hubs in Swanage, Dorset.
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Place to transfer the Chapel Lane site to the Swanage Development Partnership Trust (SDPT) through a community asset transfer process to enable the Family Hub to occupy the Chapel Lane site on terms to be agreed by the Executive Director, Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth, Assets and Property, the Executive Director for People – Children and Executive Director People – Adults and Housing, including inter-alia:
  - Due diligence of SDPT (associated with transfer of asset).
  - Ensuring best value in terms of disposal of the asset, taking into account all other matters such as subsidy control.
  - Tenure and specific terms and conditions in relation to ongoing liabilities of the asset.
- (c) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director People - Children to enter into a commissioning service level agreement with the SDPT for the provision of services in Swanage, funded by the DfE Family Hubs external grant.
- (d) That the People and Health Scrutiny Committee s be asked to receive and comment upon an annual review of the outcomes delivered by the Swanage Development Partnership Trust each year in March, the first annual review in March 2024.

### **Reason for the decision**

This proposal supports the strategic objectives of the council to create strong, healthy communities. Dorset Council recognises the devolution of assets to local communities, particularly to town and parish councils and voluntary and community-based organisations can make a significant contribution to enabling them to be stronger, more resilient and to

support services within their local areas. This proposal will enable the development of an intergenerational approach to service delivery in Swanage through the creation of a Family Hub that better meets the needs of the local community and supports the delivery of children's and adult's services commissioning strategies.

## **9 CHILDREN'S SERVICES - ANNUAL SELF-EVALUATION**

That the Annual Self-Evaluation of Children's Services 2023 be received, noting the strengths and continuous improvement approach of the service.

### **Reason for the decision**

The requirement to produce an Annual Self-Evaluation is part of the Ofsted Inspection Framework of Children's Services. This report is intended to enable Cabinet to understand areas of strength and continuous improvement approach taken.

## **10 PLANNING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE: INTERIM GUIDANCE AND POSITION STATEMENT SUSTAINABILITY CHECKLIST AND LISTED BUILDING GUIDANCE**

- (a) That the content of the report and the Interim Guidance and Position Statement (appendix 1) Sustainability Checklist (Appendix 2) and Listing Buildings: what you can do for climate change (Appendix 3) be considered and approved.
- (b) That the three documents in the appendices for consultation, as well as a related amendment to the Local List (Appendix 4), be agreed.
- (c) That agreement to any minor changes that were considered necessary prior to the consultation starting, be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Planning to approve.
- (d) That authority be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Planning in consultation with the Executive Director for Place to consider the consultation responses and agree final wording of the documents listed in Recommendation (a) above.

### **Reason for the decision**

To enable efforts to be taken to address the climate emergency when new buildings were proposed and to assist with decision-making for renewable energy proposals. The Interim Guidance and Position Statement and Sustainability Checklist would give clarity to developers as to the expectations of Dorset Council when considering development proposals.

The Listed Buildings document would provide guidance for owners of listed buildings when considering energy efficiency works. Consultation enables the documents to be adjusted to reflect issues raised and therefore for weight to be given to it when making planning decisions. Should significant changes to any of the documents be considered necessary as a result of the consultation, councillors would be given the opportunity to consider revised versions prior to their use in planning decisions.

## **11 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL STRATEGY 2023 - 25 - REFRESH**

That the Dorset Council Natural Environment, Climate and Ecology Refreshed Strategy and action plan be approved.

### **Reason for the decision**

To ensure that the strategy remains fit for purpose by being responsive to latest policy and progress, and concisely communicates our direction and ambition.

## **12 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT CLIMATE AND ECOLOGY DECISION WHEEL**

- (a) That Cabinet supports the integration of the Natural Environment, Climate & Ecological decision tool into the democratic decision-making processes of Dorset Council, with inclusion of the model in the committee templates being a prerequisite for sign-off.
- (b) That Cabinet supports the integration of the Natural Environment, Climate & Ecological decision tool into the Capital Strategy and Asset Management Group, and its associated sub-groups, and the longer-term aspiration to embed into the procurement and policy processes of Dorset Council.

### **Reason for the Decision**

The Natural Environment, Climate & Ecological decision tool provided a robust, transparent, accessible and in some instances measurable process to support the delivery of the Natural Environment, Climate & Ecological strategy and council plan ambitions, and would enable policy makers to understand the wider implications on climate, ecology and adaptation of the decisions being taken.