



Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Date: Thursday, 28 March 2024
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

Members (Quorum: 3)

Shane Bartlett (Chairman), Andy Canning (Vice-Chairman), Rod Adkins, Jon Andrews, Piers Brown, Barry Goringe, Brian Heatley, David Shortell, David Tooke and Bill Trite

Chief Executive: Matt Prosser, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic Services Meeting Contact 01305 252209 / lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting, apart from any items listed in the exempt part of this agenda.

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Agenda

Item		Pages
1.	APOLOGIES	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	MINUTES	5 - 16
	To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2024.	
3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	To disclose any pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interests as set out in the adopted Code of Conduct. In making their disclosure councillors are asked to state the agenda item, the nature of the interest and any action they propose to take as part of their declaration.	
	If required, further advice should be sought from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.	

4. CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

17 - 18

To receive any updates from the Chairman of the Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Representatives of town or parish councils and members of the public who live, work, or represent an organisation within the Dorset Council area are welcome to submit either 1 question or 1 statement for each meeting. You are welcome to attend the meeting in person or via MS Teams to read out your question and to receive the response. If you submit a statement for the committee this will be circulated to all members of the committee in advance of the meeting as a supplement to the agenda and appended to the minutes for the formal record but will not be read out at the meeting. **The first 8 questions and the first 8 statements received from members of the public or organisations for each meeting will be accepted on a first come first served basis in accordance with the deadline set out below.** Further information read [Public Participation - Dorset Council](#)

All submissions must be emailed in full to lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by 8.30am on 25 March 2024.

When submitting your question or statement please note that:

- You can submit 1 question or 1 statement.
- a question may include a short pre-ambule to set the context.
- It must be a single question and any sub-divided questions will not be permitted.
- Each question will consist of no more than 450 words, and you will be given up to 3 minutes to present your question.
- when submitting a question please indicate who the question is for (e.g., the name of the committee or Portfolio Holder)
- Include your name, address, and contact details. Only your name will be published but we may need your other details to contact you about your question or statement in advance of the meeting.
- questions and statements received in line with the council's rules for public participation will be published as a supplement to the agenda.
- all questions, statements and responses will be published in full within the minutes of the meeting.

6. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

To receive questions submitted by councillors.

Councillors can submit up to two valid questions at each meeting and sub divided questions count towards this total. Questions and statements received will be published as a supplement to the agenda

and all questions, statements and responses will be published in full within the minutes of the meeting.

The submissions must be emailed in full to lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by 8.30am on 25 March 2024.

[Dorset Council Constitution](#) – Procedure Rule 13

7. PLANNING CONVERGENCE AND TRANSFORMATION 19 - 32

To consider a report of the Head of Planning.

8. PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY

A review of the relevant Dorset Council performance dashboard to inform the scrutiny committee's work programme and identify items for deep dives.

The following link is the dashboard for the committee:

[Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee dashboard](#)

Operational – Corporate: Councillors Piers Brown, Barry Goringe and David Shortell.

Operational – Place: Councillors David Tooke and Jon Andrews.

HR: Councillors Rod Adkins, Andy Canning, Brian Heatley and Bill Trite.

The Chairman, Councillor Shane Bartlett, maintains an overview of all the above areas.

9. PLACE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 33 - 36

To review the draft Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee work programme.

10. EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS FORWARD PLANS 37 - 56

To consider the Executive arrangement draft forward plans.

Forward Plans are provided to members of the Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee to review and identify any potential post decision scrutiny to be undertaken, by scheduling items into the work programme to review after a period of implementation.

11. 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.

12. EXEMPT BUSINESS

To move the exclusion of the press and the public for the following item in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph x of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). The public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting whilst the item of business is considered.

There are no exempt items scheduled for this meeting.



PLACE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2024

Present: Cllrs Shane Bartlett (Chairman), Barry Goringe, Brian Heatley and Bill Trite

Apologies: Cllrs Andy Canning, Rod Adkins, Jon Andrews, David Shortell and David Tooke

Also present: Cllr Laura Beddow, Cllr Ray Bryan, Cllr Andrew Parry, Cllr Molly Rennie and Cllr Jane Somper

Also present remotely: Cllr Alex Brenton and Cllr Cherry Brooks

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

Jan Britton (Executive Lead for the Place Directorate), Jonathan Mair (Director of Legal and Democratic and Monitoring Officer), Tony Burden (Road Safety Manager), Jack Wiltshire (Head of Highways), Paul Rutter (Service Manager for Leisure, Arts and Cultural Services), Carl Warom (Climate and Ecology Policy Officer), Antony Littlechild (Sustainability Team Manager), Steven Ford (Corporate Director for Transformation, Innovation, Digital, and Environment), Matthew Piles (Corporate Director - Economic Growth and Infrastructure), Lindsey Watson (Senior Democratic Services Officer) and John Miles (Democratic Services Officer)

55. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

56. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

57. Chairman's Update

There were no updates from the Chairman on this occasion.

58. Public Participation

Questions and statements had been submitted from members of the public. A copy of the questions and statements submitted and the responses to the questions provided, are set out at Appendix 1.

59. Questions from Councillors

There were no questions from councillors.

60. **20mph Policy**

The committee considered a report of the Road Safety Manager, which provided an opportunity to review the 20mph Policy in its first year of operation. In addition, it set out information on an ongoing review by the Department for Transport (DfT) and noted that there was potential for new national guidance on 20mph for England.

Councillors considered the issues arising from the report and during discussion the following points were covered:

- Link with the school streets pilot project and whether the implementation of a 20mph limit could be included within these schemes or considered around school sites generally. Further consideration of the issues around this would need to be undertaken
- Consideration of the position with A roads within 20mph schemes, how the national guidance was interpreted and whether this needed to be reviewed. Roads could be considered in sections, balancing the interests of different users of the area
- Applications were considered on an individual basis and specific circumstances discussed with communities. The policy did not exclude the consideration of 20mph schemes on A and B roads
- It was noted that new guidance was awaited from the DfT
- Consideration of the process used for review of applications and whether there was a role for a member of the scrutiny committee on the 20mph Panel
- The assessment criteria including reference to the mean speed being at or below 24mph and the use of a 20mph zone versus use of additional traffic management measures
- A request to consider the wording used in the 'Road user tips' section of the toolkit to reflect the increased use of electric vehicles and their silent running operation
- Information on how collisions information was provided to the council by Dorset Police
- The budget available for schemes and the link to the allocation of Local Transport Plan funding
- The need to review emissions data moving forward.

The Chairman provided a summary of the points raised and further action required as follows:

- Consideration to be given to whether the policy could be amended to include an automatic 20mph speed limit around school streets sites and the costs associated with this, with report back to a future committee
- To consider the possibility of a scrutiny member sitting on the 20mph Panel
- To review the wording used in the 'Road user tips' section of the toolkit to reflect the increased use of electric vehicles and their silent running operation

- To undertake a review of the inclusion of A roads within 20mph schemes, how the national guidance was interpreted and whether this needed to be reviewed, with report back to a future committee
- To consider the budget allocated for 20mph schemes and the link to the allocation of Local Transport Plan funding.

61. **Redlands Leisure and Community Park Update**

The committee received a report of the Service Manager for Leisure, Arts and Cultural Services, which provided an update on the Redlands Leisure and Community Park since management had been taken over by Active Dorset in November 2022. It was noted that the park had been well supported and that usage had exceeded expectations. It was a good example of partnership working with the community playing an active role in supporting and using the facility.

The committee considered the issues arising from the report and during discussion, the following points were raised:

- Financial issues including funding provided by Weymouth College as part of the exit agreement and the revenue budget forecast submitted by Active Dorset
- Property works undertaken
- Operational issues including the self-service booking system and key code access arrangements
- Detail of attendance levels which had increased
- Future plans for the 3G pitch and proposal to introduce a new second 3G pitch, for which a bid for grant funding was being submitted by Active Dorset
- The council continued to support Active Dorset.

The Chairman noted the successful operation of the park and offered congratulations to all involved.

62. **Grid Capacity Review**

The committee received and considered a report of the Climate and Ecology Policy Officer, which presented the findings from the Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group inquiry into the impacts, challenges and opportunities of grid constraints and the associated reforms. The report included a set of recommendations for how the council could best position itself to mitigate the risks and exploit the opportunities with regard to how the network was planned, governed, invested in, reflected in the council's policy and decision-making and strengthening relationships with network operators.

It was highlighted that the review had been a useful exercise which had enabled the consideration of key issues, with discussion with both internal and external representatives. The review had identified a series of recommendations for progressing consideration of the issues. Thanks were expressed to all those that had been involved.

The Chairman highlighted the recommendations set out within the report and in addition requested an additional recommendation for continued annual scrutiny review of this area, a councillor webinar and visit to Canford Renewable Energy post May 2024 and for the briefing with MPs to be undertaken through a meeting, to allow councillors and officers to directly brief them on the issues and difficulties faced with the grid infrastructure and the issues raised during the review.

It was proposed by B Goringe seconded by B Heatley

Recommendation to Cabinet

That the recommendations of the Grid Capacity Task & Finish Group, set out within section 4 of the cover report to the Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee, on the council's future approach to the strategic risks and opportunities regarding the electricity network, be approved, subject to the following:

- i) That, in respect of recommendation 6, MPs be invited to a meeting to enable councillors and officers to directly brief them on the issues and difficulties faced with the grid infrastructure and the issues raised during the review
- ii) That an additional recommendation (7) be included – That the Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee monitor grid provision in Dorset and associated issues including emerging policy and regulatory reform, on an annual basis
- iii) That a councillor webinar be provided post May 2024 regarding grid capacity, including technologies and the future impact on planning and energy provision
- iv) That a councillor site visit be arranged post May 2024 to Canford Renewable Energy.

63. Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Councillors reviewed the committee's work programme and noted items to be considered at the next meeting on 28 March 2024.

64. Executive Arrangements Forward Plans

Councillors considered the Cabinet Forward Plan, which the committee could use to identify potential areas for post decision review.

In addition, the committee noted the forward plan for the Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd and the Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence.

65. Urgent items

There were no urgent items.

66. Exempt Business

There was no exempt business.

APPENDIX 1 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Agenda item 5 – Public Participation

Questions received

1. Question from Andrew Davis

“Why doesn’t the Speed Policy take account of exceptional circumstance in allowing a 20 mph limit as in the case of the dangerous A350 that dissects Fontmell Magna?”

Footnote:

Dorset Highways take a narrow interpretation of the 2013 DfT Guide on Speed limits. This states applications for 20-mph should not be on roads where the movement of motor vehicles is the primary function, i.e. A roads. **BUT** the same DfT guidelines also states: ***(Para 84) Based on this positive effect on road safety, and a generally favourable reception from local residents, traffic authorities are able to use their power to introduce 20mph speed limits or zones on: - major streets where there are – or could be - significant numbers of journeys on foot, and/or where pedal cycle movements are an important consideration, and this outweighs the disadvantage of longer journey times for motorised traffic.***

Response provided at meeting

During the development of the policy Dorset Council Members made clear that it would not be appropriate to include a clause relating to the term exceptional circumstances, but they wished to see officers considering applications on a location-by-location basis within an agreed criterion.

The interpretation of the policy means that 20mph should not ordinarily be considered on roads which form the strategic backbone of the network or other main roads, catering for large good vehicles, bus routes and longer distance traffic, unless as per Paragraph 84 of the DfT Guide to Setting Speed Limits referenced above there is clear evidence of high levels of pedestrian and cycle movement or there is a potential for high levels of pedestrian and cycle movement if a 20mph scheme was introduced.

The priority criteria matrix at Annex A of the policy ensures that the current and potential active travel levels (walking and cycling) are considered.

2. Question from Peter Mole, Fontmell Magna Community Speed Watch

Almost 2 years ago I and others explained the dangerous road safety situation in Fontmell Magna where vulnerable pedestrians have to share the carriageway with

hundreds of speeding vehicles. We generally do not have footways. Our ancient roads including the A350 are not engineered or regulated to be fit for purpose.

Councillors complemented us on our well informed and articulate representations and declared “we must listen and act!”.

I coordinate our Community Speed Watch Team. We did our most recent monitoring session on the A350 where children going to and from school, elderly dog walkers and others have to share the narrow road with hundreds of speeding vehicles each day. Alarming incidents including near misses with young children are too frequent and nervous people now use the car for village journeys of a few hundred yards or stay at home.

Any speeds much above 20 mph at the monitoring point are very dangerous as pedestrians and vehicles mix. There is currently a 30mph limit. We recorded over 20% of vehicles travelling at 35 mph or more which is 6 times the average level of offending at Speed Watch sites across Dorset. Each day hundreds of southbound vehicles traverse this point at speeds which would make them liable for prosecution. Children, the elderly and others are exposed to needless high risk. ROSPA estimate that in collisions child injuries treble when speeds are 30mph rather than 20 and the chance of death for adults increases eightfold. The statistics are shocking, and we do not wish a tragedy to be the trigger for remedial action.

Our request for a 20mph limit, supported by 5 out of 6 residents, has been turned down for reasons which would not be considered reasonable in the majority of local authorities in the UK today or pass informed third-party scrutiny.

You know our roads are not currently engineered or regulated to be fit for purpose. Across the UK 20mph policies have been introduced in the majority of local authorities which would address the shameful situation in Fontmell Magna. Will action be taken to ensure all road users who have to share the carriageway, including the most vulnerable, have their needs fully taken into account to prevent their current exposure to unreasonable levels of risk?

Response provided at meeting

We are grateful for the efforts of local Community Speed Watch teams because they are a crucial part of the road safety strategy demonstrated by the fact that last year, they provided evidence which led to 12,600 warning letters being issued to motorists. We encourage other communities to consider forming a group with further details being available on the Dorset Road Safety Partnerships website.

I can confirm that the needs of all road users using the network especially the most vulnerable are considered when a 20mph application or any other new highway measure is considered.

Recorded road traffic collision levels for the village of Fontmell Magna remain low with recent analysis showing that the new Speed Indicator Device has resulted in a reduction in speeds at the location in question.

Due to the constraints created by the geometry of some of our village roads it is not always possible to install significant highway improvements such as new footways. We take the issue in Fontmell Magna seriously and will continue to work with all partners to consider additional proportionate safety measures which includes working in partnership with Dorset Police to enhance their speed camera enforcement capability.

3. Question from John Roberts-Davies on behalf of Fontmell Magna Parish Council

This question relates to the policy in general and how it has been applied so far. Any references to our own previous application are intended as examples.

For an application to be rejected, as was the case in Fontmell Magna for example, on the grounds that the A350 is a “strategic” route, where the movement of vehicles is the primary function, is clearly not what is intended by government guidance, which presupposes fitness of purpose.

In the last ten years across the UK scores of dangerous primary routes have had 20 mph sections introduced, where risk management demonstrates this as the best form of risk containment.

The A350 is a prime example of risk to human life being above normal and reasonable levels, therefore risk containment is essential.

Rejecting any 20mph application simply based on Dorset Council’s chosen categorisation of a road within it, fails to meet Dorset County Council’s responsibilities under the Equality Act.

The Equalities Impact Assessment made by Mr Burden states in 12.1 of the report presented today that

The policy is directly aimed at having a positive impact on vulnerable road users including children and the elderly.

This starts at the application stage when Members, Parish and Town Councils are required to consider these concerns, and they will then form part of the evidence base for an application.

The potential benefits to vulnerable road users are considered throughout the process.

A grandmother walking her child from one part of the village to the school, along a road with very poor sightlines and no footway, where there is a serious risk of death or injury, would be right to feel let down by how this policy has been applied.

Residents of a village which is cut in two by such a road have an equal right to enjoy the outdoor environment, to access local businesses such as the shop or pub, to meet together at their village hall, or simply to walk their dog, without having to drive to do so.

They should not need to resort to using their car as a means of self defence in their own village.

People should not need to use their car as a means of self defence.

The primary purpose of a road should not be a label applied glibly along its entire length. Common sense says that at some points on any road, protection of vulnerable users could be the priority.

Will the council instruct the person responsible for ensuring the safety of all road users to investigate the problem and propose a solution?

Response provided at meeting

Dorset Council has introduced several 20mph safety schemes in previous years and the report clearly outlines progressive plans to install further schemes where appropriate.

The risk factors raised within this question are all matters that would be considered as part of a community's application together with understanding the impact of any speed reduction on the wider road network. To demonstrate how complex this work can be the Committee may find it useful to note that Wales have recently identified a detrimental impact that recent 20mph schemes have had on their rural bus route journey times and are in the process of considering reverting some routes back to 30mph.

Some residents living on or near to a main road within our village communities can be affected by severance and this issue is taken very seriously but because of the road geometry of many village environments it is not always possible to install highway improvements such as new footways to alleviate these difficulties.

Where highway improvements are technically possible, it is our duty to ensure that available funding is used for schemes where it will make the biggest impact and save the most lives. Each year Dorset Council receive many more requests for highway improvements than we can build and therefore we must prioritise schemes against an agreed set of Local Transport Plan goals.

The Road Safety Team will commit to reviewing this location with other Highway colleagues to consider whether any additional proportionate highway measures are technically achievable and will work with the newly formed Fontmell Magna Road Safety Group.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight that residents, businesses and visitors are invited to share their views on what they consider to be the big transport opportunities and issues across the whole of Dorset to shape the new Local Transport Plan. Details of how to get involved can be found on the council's website.

Statements received

1. Statement from Ian Vaughan-Arbuckle – Councillor Langton Matravers Parish Council with specific responsibility for Highways

Now that 20 mph has been approved through the centre of Langton Matravers, the Parish Council wish to thank the Place and Resources Committee and others in

Dorset Council for the way the 20mph policy was designed and implemented. Tony Burden, the Road Safety Officer, who was responsible for implementing the detailed policy, deserves particular thanks for the calm and even-handed way he managed matters. No query was too much trouble so that applicants felt their interests were receiving prompt and appropriate consideration throughout a protracted period. The approval of this policy will make a huge difference to both the safety and quality of life of those who live in the village. Thank you.

2. Statement from John Adlam

Comment

It appears that the Dorset Council (DC) 20mph policy and implementation procedures are significantly at odds with the County's Local Transport Plan 3 commitments and national standards. All people should be free to choose their mode of transport and to move safely across and alongside all DC highways passing through villages and built up areas. This is not the case to date.

The policy and implementation should support communities when:

- Safety risks have been identified.
- Residential properties front the highway.
- Footways are absent.
- Schools, shops, businesses, amenities and services are adjacent to and/or directly dependent on pedestrian access via the highway.
- There is an absence of safe pedestrian thoroughfares directly resulting in an increased use of motor vehicles for community travel in lieu of cycling or walking.
- The highway fails to meet current safety design standards for its designated or actual use.

Safety improvements should be risk managed and include, singularly or in combination (but not be limited to), highway realignment, footway construction, traffic calming measures, injury reducing speed limits (20mph), and signage where feasible. Where overall safety risk cannot be mitigated the reasons should be stated by DC and all road users alerted by DC to heightened or sustained risk.

Background

Dorset's historic strategic road network is compromised in parts by outdated design and persistent use of modern means of transportation including silent electric and heavy goods vehicles. In parts single carriageways (including designated strategic routes) have insufficient width for large vehicles to pass. In villages where this occurs, where highways do not include footways, there are poor sight lines and speed restrictions exceed 20mph, it is invariably not safe for pedestrians without the introduction of mitigating safety measures.

National standards are unequivocal and compelling when it comes to highway safety. Highways England states its ambition to ensure that its major roads are more dependable, durable and most importantly - safe. It works hard to make sure that its road network is:

- Free flowing - where routine delays are infrequent and journeys are reliable.

- Safe and serviceable - where no-one should be harmed when travelling or working.
- Accessible and integrated - so people are free to choose their mode of transport and can move safely across and alongside its roads.

3. Statement from Dilys Gartside – 20sPlentyforDorset campaign coordinator

A year after introduction of its policy on 20mph speed limits, proportionately just a handful of Dorset residents have jumped through the criteria hoops set down by Dorset Councillors to achieve a 20mph limit on their streets. Many thousands of residents, whose parish or town council have attempted to clear these hoops, have either tripped or failed to jump clear and learned they do not qualify for safer streets and yet, ironically, these are the folk whose cry for help is the most urgent.

In summer 2022, residents campaigned successfully for the new policy to be inclusive of category A and B roads since these are the arteries of many Dorset villages and essential routes for all people to get from A to B. Perhaps the most justified case is that of FONTMELL MAGNA whose village street happens to be categorized as A350. Its residents must use that main street to exit front doors and to get to the village’s amenities, without the safety barrier of a footway nor visibility due to bends. Sharing that space with a high volume of heavy and ever increasingly wider vehicles which take up more than their safe share of road space is enough to deter most residents from walking or cycling or scooting their journey and often have to move home to live elsewhere. Yet, their application for slowing speed on their village street was declined by Dorset Council, thus ignoring DfT guidance that: ‘the needs of vulnerable road users **MUST** be fully taken into account when setting speed limits’

Given the known causal links between muscle inactivity and the major health risks such as obesity, diabetes, osteo-arthritis, heart disease and dementia which affect us more as we age and the desperate needs of our financially failing Health Service to meet these ever increasing demands and the soaring costs of adult social care which are crippling this country, every councillor must take responsibility for bold action in combating this down spiral. Vibrant communities are seen to flourish in those towns and cities whose councillors have had the vision to lead from the top and introduce 20mph in places where people must mix with motors.

I suggest that Dorset Council is failing its people with the complexity of its current 20mph policy and that its funding could be spent far more effectively by rolling out wide area 20mph starting with places where the people are already shouting out for slower traffic speeds.

Duration of meeting: 10.00 am - 12.15 pm

Chairman

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BRIEFING NOTE

PLACE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Road/Streetworks, Traffic Management and Reinstatement

1. The streetworks industry is heavily legislated and regulated. Dorset Council manage streetworks under the New Road and Street Works Act 1991, our road network under the powers of Traffic Management Act 2004 and our Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders in line with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
2. Under the New Road and Streetworks Act 1991, a statutory undertaker has a right to place and access (for maintenance purposes) their apparatus within the highway and the highway authority has a right to carry out works to the highway for improvement/maintenance purposes.
3. In January 2020, Dorset Council implemented the Dorset Council permit scheme for road and streetworks. This scheme places an obligation on statutory works promoters (including our own highways operations) to apply for a permit to carry out activity on the highway network. The objective of Dorset Council's Permit Scheme is to improve the strategic and operational management of the highway network through better planning, scheduling, and management of activities to minimise disruption to any road or footway user. Our remit does not extend beyond disruption to the road network, and we cannot use loss of trade as a reason to instruct the timing of works.
4. The permit scheme allows for Dorset Council to execute our ability to coordinate and regulate activities. When permits are received, these are reviewed on a site-by-site basis. Conditions that a works promoter must follow can be applied to minimise disruption throughout the work period. We aim to avoid serious disruption, repeat disruption, and works taking place on a newly resurfaced street. We receive approximately 30,000 permits per annum.
5. Under the various Acts, we have limited control over emergency or urgent works. A statutory undertaker has the right to access the defective apparatus or make safe a situation without notice, ensuring that a permit is submitted no longer than two hours after the works have commenced. In some cases, a statutory undertaker may not have the necessary people, materials, or equipment available at the time of the fault, which can sometimes lead to traffic management being present without activity on site. Our expectation is that the statutory undertaker deploys the most appropriate traffic management and provides an update at their earliest opportunity.
6. Inspections of Road and Streetworks are defined within the New Road and Streetworks Act 1991. Dorset Council have four dedicated streetworks inspectors that enforce our requirements under the NRSWA 1991 and ensure that reinstatements completed by statutory undertakers are within specification. In April 2023, a new inspection regime was introduced by the Department for Transport which aligns the number of inspections to be carried out against the inspection compliance of a works promoter. This allows for a gradual increase in the number of inspections for poorly performing works promoters and a reduction for those that are performing well.

7. Further to the inspection regime, Dorset Council undertake a coring programme where we take core samples of reinstatements to ensure that the makeup of the reinstatement complies with specification.
8. Following the 02 May elections, a member webinar will be given that explains our responsibilities and the controls surrounding road and streetworks.

Marc Cutler
Traffic Team Leader

Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee

28 March 2024

Planning Convergence and Transformation Programme

For Review and Consultation

Portfolio Holder: Cllr D Walsh, Planning

Local Councillor(s): N/A

Executive Director: Jan Britton, Executive Lead for Place

Report Author: Michael Garrity

Job Title: Head of Planning

Tel: 01305 221826

Email: mike.garrity@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Report Status: Public (the exemption paragraph is N/A)

Brief Summary:

This report sets out an overview of Planning Convergence and Transformation, a 5-year programme designed to help shape, and support, the restructure of planning following the transitional arrangements put in place as part of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). Key objectives that have driven the (ongoing) project include: creating a planning service that is fit for purpose; performing in accordance with statutory and legal requirements; providing a service that is customer-focused; and facilitating the delivery positive of outcomes – in other words, sustainable development.

Recommendation:

That Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee note the contents of this report and endorses the continued implementation of the transformation work, including a commitment to continuous learning and improvement.

Reason for Recommendation:

Planning Convergence and Transformation was envisaged as a five-year project, but in reality, a number of its strands are designed to continuously evolve beyond the formal life of the project. Working as a multi-disciplinary project team has been essential to its success and will continue to be required to maintain the momentum of the project.

2. Introduction and context for transformation

2.1 On 1 April 2019 the new unitary authority of Dorset Council assumed all statutory planning responsibilities under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (and associated legislation for planning and other statutory functions within the service). The new authority replaced four district councils, one borough council and a county council, merging six sovereign authorities into one. Being a unitary authority, our planning portfolio is broad in scope, including the following duties:

- i) full statutory planning duties, including the preparation of development plans, determination of planning applications, minerals and waste planning, and enforcement;
- ii) building control, including applications for building regulations approval, plan inspections and dealing with dangerous structures;
- iii) maintaining the definitive map of rights of way, with responsibilities for modifications, diversions, common land and town and village greens;
- iv) acting as the charging and collecting authority for the Community Infrastructure Levy and planning obligations, with responsibility for allocating funds towards essential infrastructure and affordable housing – this involves working with partner delivery bodies such as town and parish councils, registered social housing providers and our own Council services (such as Highways and Education);
- v) a community planning role to support town and parish councils with neighbourhood plan preparation (part of the statutory development plan once made) and deal with assets of community value;
- vi) dealing with applications for listed building consent, advising on heritage assets (including listed buildings, scheduled monuments and conservation areas), and proactively responding to heritage at risk issues;
- vii) dealing with tree work applications for protected trees (those covered by individual or group Tree Preservation Orders and trees within conservation areas), as well as high hedges complaints;
- viii) providing specialist advice across a range of matters that relate to planning, including heritage, urban design, landscape, trees, environmental impact assessments and ecology.

- 2.2 Dorset Council covers a large geographical area with 375,000 residents. The combining of 6 former councils has created a much larger unitary council, recently listed as 7th out of over 300 authorities in England in terms of the number of planning applications being submitted and determined each year, placing it in the top 2% nationally. It also inherited 6 separate statutory legacy local plans covering different geographical areas, as well as three local plans for minerals and waste, jointly covering Dorset Council and BCP Council (two of which were formally adopted by the new authorities in 2019). In addition, each legacy authority had different software systems, processes and authority-specific decision and letter templates, as well as differing terms and conditions for employees.
- 2.3 Soon after the inauguration of Dorset Council, three key steps were taken to help create a fit-for-purpose planning authority. These were:
- a) Embarking on an immediate restructure of the service (implemented in April 2020) to move from the transitional arrangements in the aftermath of LGR, to one that was able to meet the new authority's guiding principles:
 - Employer of choice
 - Customer focused
 - Sustainable organisation
 - Effective and modern
 - b) Successfully securing transformation resource to help us deliver our ambitions to be a high-performing planning service;
 - c) Inviting the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) to conduct a peer review, in the midst of the restructure, so that PAS's recommendations could inform the wider restructure and transformation.
- 2.4 Soon after LGR, Dorset Council also made a commitment to prepare a new local plan for Dorset which would replace the myriad of legacy plans. It was therefore important to ensure the wider convergence and transformation programme facilitated its preparation. At the time of writing this report, the local plan's timelines are due to be considered by Cabinet at its meeting of 12 March which are proposed to be updated to align with the changes to the national planning system, thereby making sure our local plan is fully up to date when it is adopted.
- 2.5 The Change Management Case for restructuring the planning service (published in January 2020) set out the justification for change, including the changes required in Business and Technical Support, as this provided

core specialised support for planning (including building control). In summary, the restructure was necessary to do the following:

- i. organise teams and management structures that recognise the new geography of Dorset Council (with three planning committee areas) and reflect organisational design principles and new priorities for the Council, including preparation of a new local plan;
- ii. ensure there was sufficient staff resource and the right structure to deliver a good service and create the capacity to add value through a high-quality of service and scope for discretionary fee income generation;
- iii. in order to operate effectively, the planning service needed to move to a single software platform, which would take time and resource to procure, implement and embed;
- iv. stronger alignment of technical and administrative roles was essential in order to provide efficient, effective and front-loaded support from skilled officers trained in dealing with technical plans and documents, thereby maximising our ability to deliver a high-quality service and meet national statutory performance targets;
- v. creation of greater capacity for planning officers to focus on work commensurate with their professional qualifications and RTPI/professional accreditation, in the interests of delivering a good service and high-quality outcomes for Dorset;
- vi. to improve consistency and efficiency to reduce dependency on agency staff, increase the quality and timeliness of decision-making, and reduce risks of reputational damage caused by capacity issues;
- vii. to create greater clarity around roles and career development opportunities through the introduction of a single set of terms and conditions across the team. This was important for morale, fairness and recruitment and retention;
- viii. well-being of staff was seen as paramount, and the review aimed to achieve a structure that enables staff to operate effectively.

2.6 These objectives were in alignment with the recommendations of the PAS peer review. The Convergence and Transformation programme has

provided essential capacity needed to deliver, given the scale and ambition of the change.

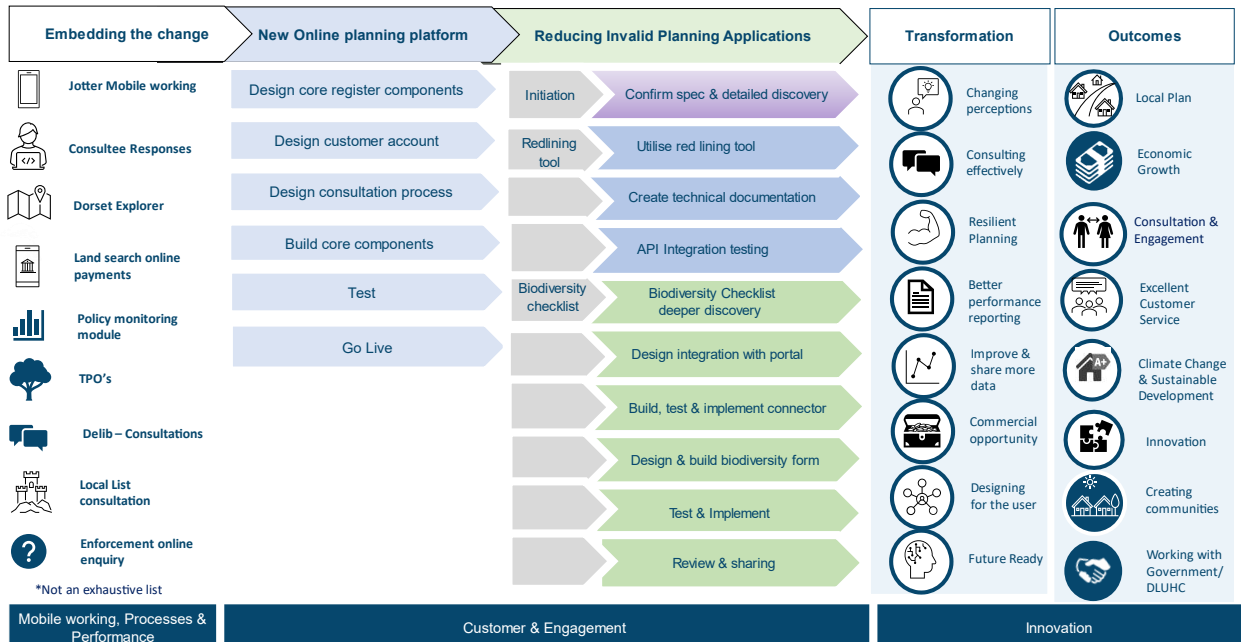
3. Convergence and Transformation – Progress to Date

3.1 The convergence and transformation programme has looked at systems, processes and culture and therefore was an integral part of the service restructure. It began with a three-month discovery phase (in September 2019), working with staff, members, town and parish councillors and key customers of the service. This included a request to PAS to conduct a peer review.

3.2 The project is supported by a multi-disciplinary team, and much of the success to date is attributable to integrating software suppliers, project management, and technical leads in the team. The planning portfolio holder and corporate director provide key leadership roles as part of the project team and steering group. The project team includes colleagues from planning, enforcement, building control, conservation and trees, spatial planning, highways and land charges teams, alongside colleagues from digital & change, ICT and GIS.

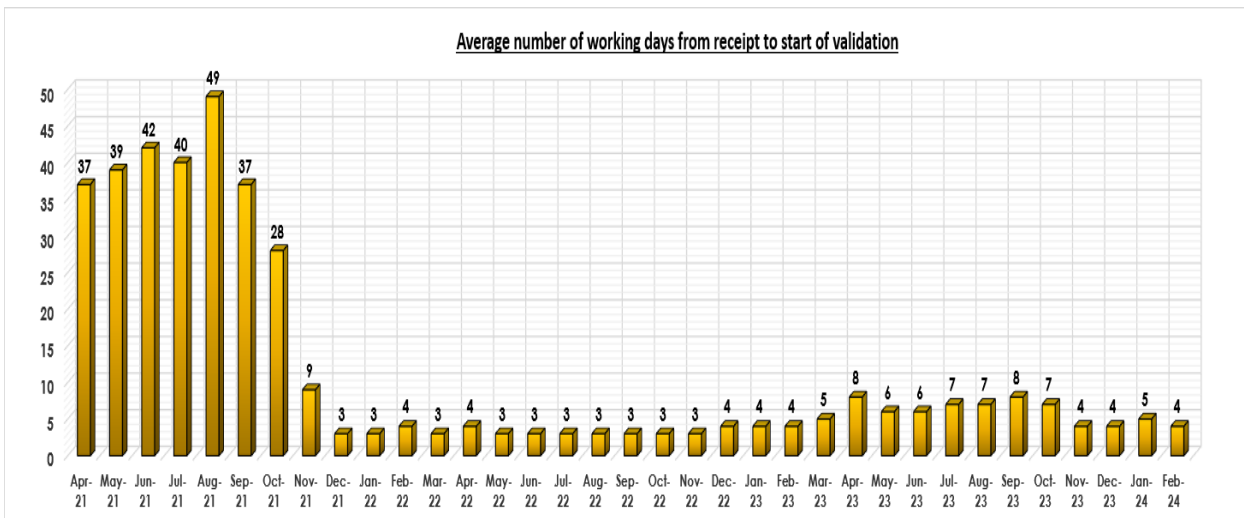
3.3 The transformation programme has two key phases: convergence (with embedding the change being part of this) and transformation. These elements are discussed below.

Planning Transformation – roadmap



3.4 **Phase 1: Convergence:** this involved legacy planning authorities, building control and affiliated systems (Land Charges and GIS) being converged onto a single software platform, with alignment of processes, templates, records and a public-facing planning register. It was vital that this was integrated with the restructure so that working practices, team structure, recruitment and working (one council) culture were aligned with the convergence. The convergence has included:

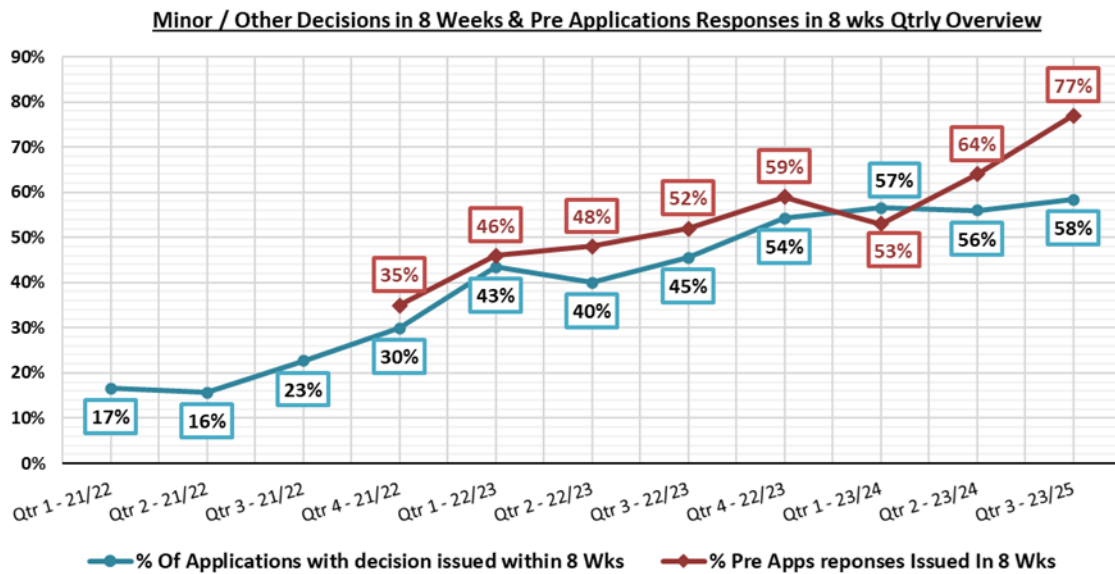
- bringing all software systems for planning, building control, land charges and GIS onto a single platform (DEF MasterGov);
- the transfer of over 4.3 million documents onto the new platform. This amounts to 47 years-worth of data and 285 people registered onto the new system. Convergence has been complex, requiring careful management of system down-time to avoid planning committee periods and other operational challenges;
- clearance of substantial casework backlogs caused by disruptive effects of LGR and loss of staff in the transitional period, the impact of the pandemic lockdown, and running of several different software platforms prior to convergence. The backlog has now been cleared, applications are validated within statutory guidelines, and planning performance has shown continuous improvement. This can be seen from the graph below – this shows the period from which the backlog for validation of planning applications reached a peak but was targeted and cleared.



- 3.5 **Embedding the Change:** Following convergence, the aim has been to instil consistent and effective working practices and a culture of continuous improvement. This has involved the creation of a service-wide change group to build a one-team approach, provide a community of support (including digital champions) and prepare the way for sustainable change during and beyond the formal transformation project itself. This includes:
- i) system and process improvements: consolidation and improvement of around 200+ report and letter templates, with the introduction of automated workflows in MasterGov (improving consistency and efficiency), and crossover benefits for planning with the integration of GIS and automation of most land search questions;
 - ii) more integrated working with other service providers (one council approach) to deliver the Council's aspirations and make effective use of the unitary authority's wealth of expertise – vital in preparing the evidence base for a new local plan and supporting decision-making;
 - iii) mobile working is being rolled out for teams where this delivers efficiency benefits (e.g. building control), increasing productivity by enabling staff to work and check plans on site;
 - iv) the service has promoted chargeable pre-application advice, together with planning performance agreements, as a means of improving the quality and timeliness of decision-making while securing discretionary income for value-added services;
 - v) Planning has developed an internal consultation protocol to support other services in understanding what is expected when they are consulted about a planning application. This improves consistency and timeliness of responses;
 - vi) to reduce time and resource pressures on consultees, there are regular casework surgeries for conservation, trees advice and legal, which helps speed up turnaround times and builds skill levels;
 - vii) the service hosts regular engagement events with parish and town councils and planning agents to inform them and update about progress with new changes, such as biodiversity net gain and improvements to our planning register;
 - viii) ongoing training of members of the planning committees is carried out to ensure decision making remains robust.

3.6 **Phase 2 - Transformation:** this is ongoing and involves redesigning our online planning register, working with the national Planning Portal to reduce the number of invalid planning applications we receive, and future transformation and place-shaping to build a planning system for the future to underpin the growth and economic regeneration of Dorset. Some of the key elements and benefits include the following:

- i) the development management service has continued its drive to efficient turnaround of planning applications and effective use of pre-application advice. The following graph illustrates the continued trend in improved performance (excluding agreed extensions of time to give a real-time account of performance):



- ii) our Building Control service has to compete with private inspectors and has a strong reputation for high quality service, securing approximately 70% market share in Dorset (this is exceptional when compared with Local Authority Building Control nationally);
- iii) with DLUHC PropTech funding, the Transformation project team has been working alongside other planning authorities on a Digital Planning Platform (Online Registers) project, targeted at public engagement and establishing best practice – one that achieves appropriate levels of engagement in a way that recognises the importance of targeted, efficient and cost-effective service delivery. As part of this work we have prototyped a way for customers to track planning applications and have a choice of how they receive updates;

- iv) work is continuing on designing a more intuitive online register to improve the way our customers can interact with the planning service (including planning/listed buildings applications, Building Control, Enforcement, and Trees). The new platform will allow for greater self-service with the documents and data we hold, and improve how the public, consultees, town and parish councils can review, monitor and comment on applications they are interested in. The platform will also streamline the process so that comments can be reviewed and processed much more efficiently by our technical support teams and planning officers. Much of the discovery phase has been completed, with input from users, and we are working with software providers to start to build, test and develop the new platform;
- v) we have been successful in receiving DLUHC funding as one of the pilot authorities for digitising the planning system. This has included an award of £95,000 to develop an improved online planning register, and a further award of £250,000 to reduce the rate of invalid planning applications received via the Planning Portal. This is complex, as some of the latest statutory requirements such as biodiversity net gain are proving technically challenging to manage through online platforms. This continues to be investigated, but is an example of the difficult but important purpose behind the work that is taking place;
- vi) the team is exploring the scope to make greater use of technology to assist in visualising development and place shaping tools;
- vii) tackling recruitment and retention is seen as an important element of transformation, and we are looking at learning and development, skills retention and promoting the planning service in terms of career opportunities. This has included use of apprenticeships, embracing new professions with transferrable skills into the service and making use of in-house expertise to provide training. This is supportive of the Council's aim to be an employer of choice.

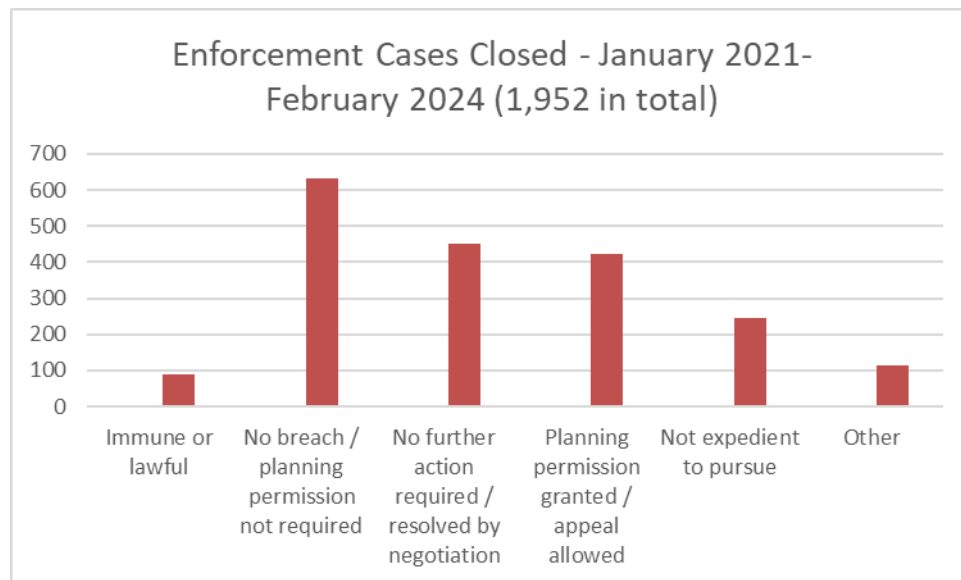
4. Planning Enforcement audit

- 4.1 Planning Enforcement deals with breaches of planning control, and it is an integral part of having an effective planning system. Much of the team's work involves investigating alleged breaches to determine whether or not they actually require planning permission in the first place and, if so, whether any harm is occurring that would require a remedy. Resolutions

can be many and varied, ranging from no further action (e.g. if there is no breach of planning control), seeking to regularise through a planning application, getting the owner/developer to rectify the breach, through to formal enforcement action. Workloads are unpredictable and some cases can be extremely resource-intensive.

4.2 Planning enforcement is part of the wider transformation programme and will benefit from the software, system and process changes that have been taking place. The programme has focused initially on planning applications due to the scale of convergence, and so rolling out the improvements to enforcement will be needed. This includes converging records, systems and templates and a key challenge has been to review historic legacy enforcement cases which have detracted officer time from the most pressing enforcement cases. The team is in the process of reviewing the enforcement policy and our online portal provides the most effective way for customers of the service to report alleged breaches of planning control.

4.3 Significant steps have been taken to clear backlogs of enforcement cases and to prioritise those cases where risks of harm are significant. The following graph shows that a high proportion of cases are resolved without the need for formal action.



4.4 However, enforcement is by its nature unpredictable in terms of work demands and pressures, while resolution can be complex and time-consuming. As a consequence, there can often be a mismatch between customer expectations and what is achievable, and this can adversely

affect perceptions about the effectiveness of the service. In the interests of helping us to manage this situation more effectively, we have invited the South West Audit team to conduct an audit on our enforcement service. The audit is reviewing the following:

- how the Planning Enforcement policy is followed and applied;
- the decision-making process for review of complaints/cases, including the amount of formal action taken as a result and efficiency of service response;
- how performance of the service is monitored and reported, including the review of working practices;
- the effectiveness of governance arrangements, such as oversight by senior managers, in ensuring consistency across the Enforcement service sub-teams;
- benchmarking with other local authorities.

4.5 Once complete, the audit will provide us with some valuable recommendations and guidance on priorities for improving the service further. This will help inform our review of the enforcement policy and build upon the transformation work that has been taking place.

5. **Financial Implications**

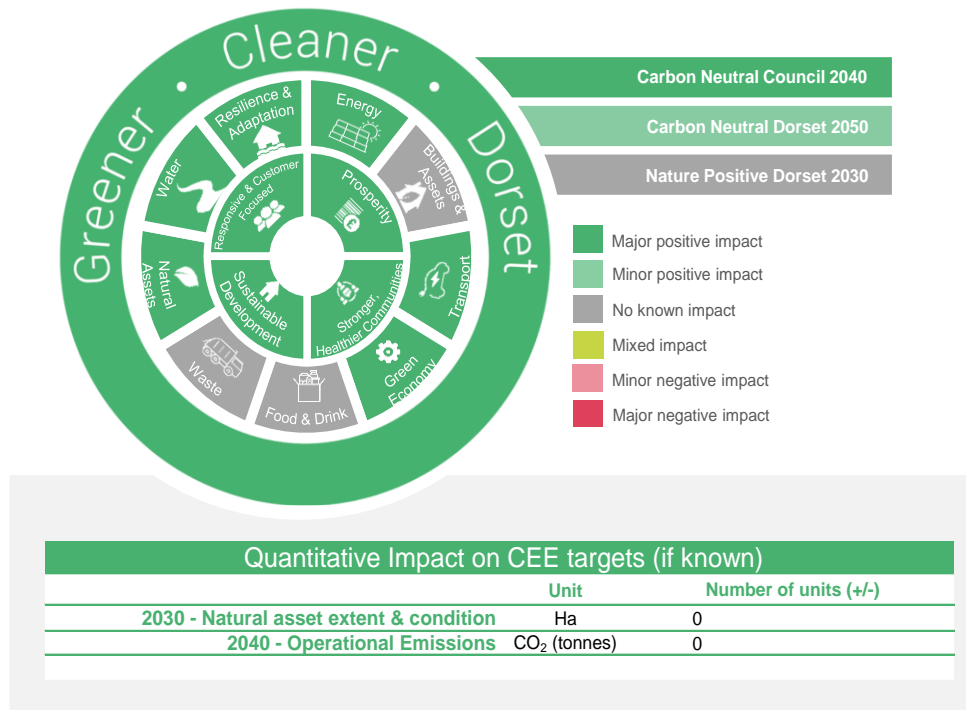
5.1 The Convergence and Transformation project was allocated funding of £1,122,682 (excluding additional DLUHC funding for pilot schemes Dorset Council is engaged in). This has been used for software amalgamation, migration and infrastructure costs associated with the setup of MasterGov (covering design, build, testing and go-live). Part of the project also recognised the importance of managing impact of disruption of the change and the need to clear backlogs in validation/minor planning casework as a key part of facilitating a transformation. Other elements include consultation and engagement and committed spend for future transformation, which will include planning register development, automated solutions and other elements to the project. Approximately £860,000 has been spent, with the remainder committed for ongoing transformation work. The project team includes a finance accountant who reports to the steering group. The project is forecast to be on-budget.

5.2 Phase 1 of the transformation project (convergence) brought about initial cashable savings of approximately £490,000 principally through system savings and consolidation onto a single platform. These were incorporated into the base budget, due to the impact of covid creating additional work

pressures (a 30% increase in planning applications). On top of this, an estimated £240,000 of non-cashable savings could be attributed to the programme, from improved productivity and greater service resilience, including a significant reduction in officer time involved in having to switch between different systems. This created greater capacity for discretionary income generation. In 2022/2023 the Local Planning Authority secured approximately £480,000 in pre-application services or planning performance agreements over and above statutory application fee income.

6. Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Implications

6.1 The planning system’s main purpose is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. This means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.



6.2 Sustainable development includes environmental, social and economic objectives and this starts with putting in place statutory plans and policies which address these objectives. These policies then steer the consideration of planning applications, while our Building Control service ensures new buildings meet the latest energy performance standards. The Planning Service has also taken steps to implement biodiversity net gain for all developments, achieve nutrient neutrality within affected

catchments, meet the requirements of Habitats Regulations Directive and Environmental Impact Assessment, and support the delivery of the Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy. The planning transformation is key to facilitating this.

7. Well-being and Health Implications

- 7.1 The planning restructure and transformation programme have had staff well-being at their core, as expressed in the Planning Service Plan. This is promoted through supportive working environments where systems are in place to support officers in their day-to-day tasks and create the necessary time for them to apply their valuable skills and expertise to securing better planning outcomes and offer value-added services which generate additional income.
- 7.2 An outcome-focused service, which the transformation programme supports, also creates more sustainable, healthier places where people have better access to supporting infrastructure, high quality and affordable homes, good schools and open spaces, and where homes are accessible to places of work, leisure, shopping, healthcare and education.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1 The transformation programme is an intrinsic part of creating an effective, resilient and outcome-focused planning authority. However, it is not complete, and work is ongoing to deliver some of the customer-facing aspects of the service, including more intuitive web-based services and improved systems, including the use of technology where it adds value to the services we provide. This will require continued officer time and support to ensure the work done to-date is able to provide the necessary platform for the undoubted benefits that the transformation will bring.

9. Risk Assessment

- 9.1 **HAVING CONSIDERED:** the risks associated with this decision; the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: LOW

Residual Risk: LOW

10. **Equalities Impact Assessment**

- 10.1 The Transformation programme is not considered to have an impact on any groups protected under the Equalities Act. All services within planning will be subject to any requirements as necessary under the Equalities Act, and an Equalities Impact Assessment has been prepared for the emerging Dorset Council Local Plan.

11. **Appendices**

- 11.1 None.

12. **Background Papers**

- 12.1 None

13. **Report Sign Off**

- 11.1 This report has been through the internal report clearance process and has been signed off by the Director for Legal and Democratic (Monitoring Officer), the Executive Director for Corporate Development (Section 151 Officer) and the appropriate Portfolio Holder` (s).

Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee Draft Work Programme 2024/2025

Meeting Date: 18 June 2024

Report Title	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Other Information

Meeting Date: 30 July 2024

Report Title	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Other Information
Natural Environment, Climate and Ecology Strategy – progress report	To review the bi-annual progress report on the Dorset Council Natural Environment, Climate and Ecology Strategy	Carl Warom – Climate & Ecology Policy Officer	
Performance Scrutiny	To review the most recent performance information and use this to agree items to add to the committee forward plan for further analysis	David Bonner – Service Manager – Business Intelligence & Performance	

Meeting Date: 26 September 2024

Report Title	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Other Information
Property Strategy & Asset Management Plan update	Review and comment upon progress in achieving the actions identified in the Property & Asset Management Strategy Action Plan and areas needing to be given priority	Corporate Director – Assets & Property	

Meeting Date: 12 November 2024

Report Title	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Other Information
Natural Environment, Climate and Ecology Strategy – progress report	To review the bi-annual progress report on the Dorset Council Natural Environment, Climate and Ecology Strategy	Carl Warom – Climate & Ecology Policy Officer	
Corporate Complaints Team – Annual Report	An overview of the volume and impacts of Dorset Council's complaints through the Corporate Complaints Team 2023/24	Antony Bygrave – Senior Assurance Officer – Complaints	
Performance Scrutiny	To review the most recent performance information and use this to agree items to add to the committee forward plan for further analysis	David Bonner – Service Manager – Business Intelligence & Performance	

Meeting Date: 16 January 2025 – Budget scrutiny (Single item meeting)

Report Title	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Other Information
Budget Scrutiny	Consideration of the budget proposals before proceeding to produce the final budget paper for recommendation to Cabinet on 28 January 2025	Sean Cremer – Corporate Director – Finance & Commercial	

Meeting Date: 6 March 2025

Report Title	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Other Information
Performance Scrutiny	To review the most recent performance information and use this to agree items to add to the committee forward plan for further analysis	David Bonner – Service Manager – BI & Performance	

Meeting Date: 24 April 2025

Report Title	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Other Information

Annual items:

- Property Strategy & Asset Management Plan update – September
- Corporate Complaints Team – Annual Report – November

Bi-annual items:

- Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy – progress report – July and November

Alternate meeting items:

- Performance Scrutiny – informal session held before each committee occurrence - July, November, March

Informal Work of the Committee:

Date	Topic	Format	Members	Lead Officers / Members	Other Information
Quarterly	Review of the committee's performance and risk dashboards	Informal meeting	All committee members	David Bonner – Service Manager Business Intelligence & Performance	Review of the dashboards to identify potential future areas for review by the committee

The Cabinet Forward Plan - June to September 2024 (Publication date 11 May 2024)

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 -

- page 37
- 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."

In 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.

Cabinet Portfolio Holders 2023/24

Spencer Flower	Leader / Governance, Performance and Communications
Gary Suttle	Deputy Leader and Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy
Ray Bryan	Highways, Travel and Environment
Jill Haynes	Corporate Development and Transformation
Laura Beddow	Culture and Communities
Simon Gibson	Economic Growth and Levelling Up
Andrew Parry	Assets and Property
Byron Quayle	People – Children, Education, Skills, and Early Help
Jane Somper	People - Adult Social Care, Health, and Housing
David Walsh	Planning

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
2024					
April					
June					
<p>Quarter 4 Financial Monitoring 2023/24</p> <p>Key Decision - No</p> <p>Public Access - Open</p> <p>consider the Quarter 4 Financial Monitoring Report 2024/25.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 11 Jun 2024</p>		<p>Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy</p>	<p><i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer (Aidan Dunn)</i></p>
<p>BCP Local Plan consultation response</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes</p> <p>Public Access - Open</p> <p>Proposed for change set out in an invest to save business case.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 11 Jun 2024</p>		<p>Portfolio Holder for Planning</p>	<p><i>Terry Sneller, Strategic Planning Manager</i> <i>terry.sneller@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Place</i></p>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
July					

<p>Youth Justice Plan 2024/25</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>Annual approval of the Youth Justice Plan.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 9 Jul 2024</p>	<p>People and Health Overview Committee 13 Jun 2024</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for People - Children, Education, Skills and Early Help</p>	<p><i>David Webb, Manager - Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service</i> <i>david.webb@bcpcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i></p>
<p>Extra Care Housing Strategy & Accommodation with support programme</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To present the Extra Care Housing Strategy, seek endorsement from Cabinet, and to brief members on the Accommodation with Support programme.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 9 Jul 2024</p>	<p>People and Health Overview Committee 13 Jun 2024</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for People - Adult Social Care, Health and Housing</p>	<p><i>Adam Fitzgerald, Building Better Lives Programme Manager</i> <i>adam.fitzgerald@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Adults</i></p>
<p>Developing a more commercial approach to digital innovation</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>A full business case proposing the council establish a special purpose vehicle to help commercialise digital innovation.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 9 Jul 2024</p>	<p>Place and Resources Overview Committee 6 Jun 2024</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Assets and Property</p>	<p><i>Nick Webster, Head of Growth and Economic Regeneration</i> <i>nicholas.webster@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>, <i>Colin Wood, Programme Manager - 5G and Mobile</i> <i>colin.wood@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Lead for Place Directorate (Jan Britton)</i></p>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
September					
<p>Quarter 1 Financial Monitoring 2024/25</p> <p>Key Decision - No Public Access - Open</p> <p>To consider the Quarter 1 Financial Monitoring Report 2024/25</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 10 Sep 2024</p>		<p>Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy</p>	<p><i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer (Aidan Dunn)</i></p>
<p>Draft Contaminated Land Strategy</p> <p>Key Decision - No Public Access - Open</p> <p>Draft Contaminated Land Strategy and report of consultation findings on the draft strategy.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 10 Sep 2024</p>	<p>Place and Resources Overview Committee 11 Jul 2024</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Culture and Communities</p>	<p><i>Steven Horsler, Environmental Health Officer</i> <i>steven.horsler@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Janet Moore, Service Manager for Environmental Protection</i> <i>Janet.Moore@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Lead for Place Directorate (Jan Britton)</i></p>
<p>Waste Strategy for Dorset 2024</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To consider and approve the Waste Strategy for Dorset.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 10 Sep 2024</p>	<p>Place and Resources Overview Committee 11 Jul 2024</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Culture and Communities</p>	<p><i>Gemma Clinton, Head of Commercial Waste and Strategy</i> <i>gemma.clinton@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Lisa Mounty, Service Development Manager</i> <i>lisa.mounty@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Lead for Place Directorate (Jan Britton)</i></p>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
October					
<p>Growth & Economic Regeneration Strategy</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To consider and agree a refresh of the Council's strategy for economic growth. This will encompass the functions to be taken over by the Council from Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership in accordance with the evolution and promote the needs and actions required to drive forward the economy in the Dorset Council area.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 15 Oct 2024</p>	<p>Place and Resources Overview Committee 12 Sep 2024</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth and Levelling Up</p>	<p><i>Jon Bird, Service Manager for Growth and Economic Regeneration jon.bird@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Nick Webster, Head of Growth and Economic Regeneration nicholas.webster@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Lead for Place Directorate (Jan Britton)</i></p>
November					
<p>Quarter 2 Financial Monitoring Report 2024/25</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To consider the Quarter 2 Financial Monitoring Report 2024/25</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 19 Nov 2024</p>		<p>Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy</p>	<p><i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer (Aidan Dunn)</i></p>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
<p>Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and budget strategy - update</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To receive a budget update for 2025/26.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 19 Nov 2024</p>		<p>Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy</p>	<p><i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer (Aidan Dunn)</i></p>
<p>January 2025</p>					
<p>Quarter 3 Financial Monitoring 2024/25</p> <p>Key Decision - No Public Access - Open</p> <p>To consider the Quarter 3 financial Monitoring Report 2024/25</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 28 Jan 2025</p>		<p>Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy</p>	<p><i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer (Aidan Dunn)</i></p>
<p>Budget strategy and medium-term financial plan (MTFP)</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To consider a report and recommendation of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Assets.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 28 Jan 2025</p>	<p>People and Health Scrutiny Committee Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee 17 Jan 2025 16 Jan 2025</p>	<p>Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy</p>	<p><i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer (Aidan Dunn)</i></p>

Private/Exempt Items for Decision

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6. Information which reveals that the shadow council proposes:-
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Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd Forward Plan - July 2024 to October 2024 (Publication date – JUNE 2024)

Explanatory Note:

This Forward Plan contains future items to be considered by the Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence. 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 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."

In 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.

Committee Membership 2023/24

Spencer Flower	Leader / Governance, Performance and Communications
Gary Suttle	Deputy Leader / Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy
Jane Somper	Adult Social Care, Health and Housing
Laura Beddow	Culture and Communities
Byron Quayle	Children, Education, Skills and Early Help

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
July				
Review of the Committee's Terms of Reference Key Decision - No Public Access - Open	Decision Maker Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd	Decision Date 1 Jul 2024	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy	<i>Jonathan Mair, Director of Legal and Democratic and Monitoring Officer jonathan.mair@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Adults</i>
Dorset Council Delegated Decisions (as required) Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd	Decision Date 1 Jul 2024	Portfolio Holder for People - Adult Social Care, Health and Housing	<i>Jonathan Price, Corporate Director for Commissioning jonathan.price@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Adults</i>
Dorset Council Organisational Update Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd	Decision Date 1 Jul 2024	Portfolio Holder for People - Adult Social Care, Health and Housing	<i>Jonathan Price, Corporate Director for Commissioning jonathan.price@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Adults</i>
Care Dorset Update Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd	Decision Date 1 Jul 2024	Portfolio Holder for People - Adult Social Care, Health and Housing	<i>Jonathan Price, Corporate Director for Commissioning jonathan.price@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Adults</i>
October				

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
Dorset Council Delegated Decisions (as required) Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd	Decision Date 7 Oct 2024	Portfolio Holder for People - Adult Social Care, Health and Housing	<i>Jonathan Price, Corporate Director for Commissioning jonathan.price@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Corporate Director of Commissioning, People - Adults</i>
Dorset Council Organisational Update Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd	Decision Date 7 Oct 2024	Portfolio Holder for People - Adult Social Care, Health and Housing	<i>Jonathan Price, Corporate Director for Commissioning jonathan.price@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Adults</i>
Care Dorset Update Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd	Decision Date 7 Oct 2024	Portfolio Holder for People - Adult Social Care, Health and Housing	<i>Jonathan Price, Corporate Director for Commissioning jonathan.price@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Chris Best, Interim Managing Director chris.best@caredorset.co.uk Executive Director, People - Adults</i>
Care Dorset Five Year Business Plan Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Fully exempt	Decision Maker Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd	Decision Date 7 Oct 2024	Portfolio Holder for People - Adult Social Care, Health and Housing	<i>Jonathan Price, Corporate Director for Commissioning jonathan.price@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Adults</i>
Annual Reports				

Annual Performance Update for	Decision Maker	Decision Date	Portfolio Holder for	
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Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
<p>Council</p> <p>Key Decision - No Public Access - Open</p>	<p>Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd</p>		<p>People - Adult Social Care, Health and Housing</p>	<p><i>Executive Director, People - Adults</i></p>
<p>Care Dorset Business Plan - 6 month review and update</p> <p>Key Decision - No Public Access - Open</p> <p>For the Shareholder Committee to consider progress in delivering the year business plan, and any review of the plan as necessary.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Shareholder Committee for Care Dorset Holdings Ltd</p>	<p>Decision Date</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for People - Adult Social Care, Health and Housing</p>	<p><i>Jonathan Price, Corporate Director for Commissioning jonathan.price@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Mark Tyson, Commissioning Consultant mark.tyson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Adults</i></p>

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The Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence (DCOE) Forward Plan June to November (Publication date – 10 MAY 2024)

Explanatory Note:

This Forward Plan contains future items to be considered by the Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence. 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 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
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Committee Membership 2023/24

Spencer Flower	Leader / Governance, Performance and Communications
Gary Suttle	Deputy Leader / Finance, Commercial and Capital Strategy
Jane Somper	Adult Social Care, Health and Housing
Laura Beddow	Culture and Communities
Byron Quayle	Children, Education, Skills and Early Help

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
Standing items for consideration				
June				
Review of Terms of Reference Key Decision - No Public Access - Open	Decision Maker The Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence (DCOE)	Decision Date 10 Jun 2024	Leader of the Council	<i>Chris Harrod, Senior Democratic Services Officer chris.harrod@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Director of Legal and Democratic Services - Monitoring Officer (Jonathan Mair)</i>
Dorset Council Delegated Decisions Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker The Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence (DCOE)	Decision Date 10 Jun 2024	Portfolio Holder for People - Children, Education, Skills and Early Help	<i>Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>
Dorset Council Commissioning Report Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker The Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence	Decision Date 10 Jun 2024	Portfolio Holder for People - Children, Education, Skills and Early Help	<i>Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>
DCoE - Report of the Chair of the Board Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker The Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence (DCOE)	Decision Date 10 Jun 2024	Portfolio Holder for People - Children, Education, Skills and Early Help	<i>Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
September				
Dorset Council Delegated Decisions Key Decision - No Public Access - Open	Decision Maker The Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence (DCOE)	Decision Date 11 Mar 2024	Councillor Byron Quayle	<i>Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>
Dorset Council Commissioning Report Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker The Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence (DCOE)	Decision Date 11 Mar 2024	Councillor Byron Quayle	<i>Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>
DCoE - Report of the Chair of the Board Key Decision - No Public Access - Part exempt	Decision Maker The Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence (DCOE)	Decision Date 11 Mar 2024	Councillor Byron Quayle	<i>Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>
Annual Reports				
Annual Performance Report to Council Key Decision - No Public Access - Open	Decision Maker The Shareholder Committee for the Dorset Centre of Excellence (DCOE)	Decision Date	Portfolio Holder for People - Children, Education, Skills and Early Help	<i>Executive Director, People - Children (Theresa Leavy)</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
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