



Place and Resources Overview Committee

Date: Thursday, 21 November 2024
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

Members (Quorum: 3)

Andy Canning (Chair), Andrew Starr (Vice-Chair), Piers Brown, Richard Crabb, Simon Gibson, Sherry Jespersen, David Northam, Mike Parkes, Roland Tarr and David Taylor

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

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic Services Meeting Contact 01305 224450 /antony.nash@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 - 10
To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 12 th September 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. CHAIR'S UPDATE

To receive any updates from the Chair of the Place and Resources Overview 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 antony.nash@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by 8.30am on 18th November 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-amble 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 antony.nash@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by 8.30am on 18th November 2024

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

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| 7. | ACTIVE TRAVEL INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN | 11 - 18 |
| | To consider the report of the Principal Transport Planner | |
| 8. | ECONOMIC GROWTH STRATEGY | 19 - 26 |
| | To consider the report of the Head of Growth and Regeneration | |
| 9. | PLACE AND RESOURCES OVERVIEW COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME | 27 - 38 |
| | To review the Place and Resources Overview Committee Work Programme. | |
| | To review the Cabinet Forward Plan. | |
| 10. | URGENT ITEMS | |
| | To consider any items of business which the Chair 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. | |
| 11. | 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.

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PLACE AND RESOURCES OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2024

Present: Cllrs Andy Canning (Chair), Andrew Starr (Vice-Chair), Piers Brown, Richard Crabb, Simon Gibson, Sherry Jespersen, David Northam and David Taylor

Apologies: Cllrs Mike Parkes

Also present: Cllr Jon Andrews, Cllr Shane Bartlett, Cllr Richard Biggs, Cllr Ray Bryan, Cllr Andrew Parry and Cllr Jane Somper

Also present remotely: Cllr Belinda Bawden, Cllr Gill Taylor and Cllr Nocturin Lacey-Clarke

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

Jonathan Mair (Director of Legal and Democratic and Monitoring Officer), Matthew Piles (Corporate Director - Economic Growth and Infrastructure), Jessica Maskrey (Interim Head of Asset Strategy and Development), Gemma Clinton (Head of Commercial Waste and Strategy), Janet Moore (Service Manager for Environmental Protection), Anna Lee (Service Manager for Development Management and Enforcement), Darren Hobson (Enforcement Manager), Lindsey Watson (Senior Democratic Services Officer) and John Miles (Democratic Services Officer)

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

Julian Wain (Strategic Property Advisor)

10. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

11. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

12. **Chair's Update**

There were no updates from the Chair on this occasion.

13. **Public Participation**

One question was received from a member of the public. The question asked and response provided is included at appendix 1 to the minutes.

14. **Questions from Councillors**

There were no questions from councillors.

15. **Dorset Council - Strategic Asset Management Plan 2024 - 2030**

The committee received a report of the Strategic Place Adviser, which presented the draft Strategic Asset Management Plan to cover the period 2024 – 2030 and invited comments before the draft plan was considered by Cabinet.

Councillors considered the draft Strategic Asset Management Plan and comments were made in the following areas:

- Key performance indicators (KPIs) were to be developed
- Assets belonged to Dorset Council and would be utilised to the benefit of the whole area
- The use of assets to support and develop service areas was considered and there was a need to consider the council's areas of priority
- A point was raised as to whether there were plans to set up panels to look at particular asset areas, with the example of the County Farms Panel provided. This could be considered if felt to be beneficial
- A discussion was held about links to the provision of land for housing including affordable housing. The links with the development of the new Dorset Council Plan and Local Plan were highlighted
- Detail of the timetable for the rolling programme of asset review was provided, which would be reported through the governance process, and there was a request for further information on dates for this
- It was noted that the plan should be the enabler of council priorities, and could assist with the definition of these, without being too prescriptive
- A comment was made that there needed to be a focus on the economic growth and regeneration of town centres and that the need for a town centre strategy was acknowledged as a longer-term plan
- There was a need to ensure an appropriate level of resource in this area to progress priorities
- The plan provided the strategic overview of how the council used its assets for wider priorities and further work would be required on how these were then progressed
- There would be councillor involvement in the various strategies to be progressed and decisions on specific assets would include consultation at the appropriate time
- There were shorter- and longer-term elements within the strategy and a need to understand where an asset could contribute to a council priority, and if there were areas that could be progressed at a quicker pace
- KPIs should be carefully considered to ensure that the right metrics were put in place
- Work was being undertaken to ensure links between different council departments when considering an asset that crossed over into different council areas.

At the end of the discussion, the Chair provided a summary of the key points raised:

- Councillors were broadly supportive of the new Strategic Asset Management Plan
- There was recognition that further work was required on defining the council's priorities and that this linked to work on the new Dorset Council Plan
- Further work was required on establishing key performance indicators for this area
- There would be further discussion with councillors in respect of the various strategies to be developed.

16. **Development Management: Local Enforcement Plan 2024**

The committee considered a report of the Planning Enforcement Manager, which invited comments on the Development Management Local Enforcement Plan 2024, which set out Dorset Council's approach to enforcement matters in line with the National Planning Policy Framework.

Councillors considered the issues arising from the report and during discussion, comments in the following areas were raised:

- An overview of resourcing in the Enforcement Team was provided and a request made for a breakdown of the number of cases dealt with, within each area
- The position with temporary campsites. It was noted that although the proposed plan did not refer to specific cases, consideration could be given to having report templates and notices in place to assist with responding to issues as required
- Information provided on how cases were considered and allocated, and it was noted that the proposed plan would set this out
- A point was noted about the use of language within the plan and a request that this be reviewed to ensure it was written in plain English. This would be reviewed following the meeting
- The importance of good communication in this area was raised and a need for understanding of how enforcement worked by ward councillors and residents
- There was a need to make points relating to the consequences of non-compliance with planning / enforcement issues more robust within the plan and in communications with the public, with the particular example of actions around tree preservation orders discussed
- The Planning Enforcement Manager provided an overview of the way the council would work with parties before formal enforcement action was taken and provided specific detail around how issues with trees were dealt with
- In response to a question about the follow up on planning permissions being received, the Service Manager for Development Management and Enforcement noted that there was a reliance on ward councillors, parish and town councils and the public to raise potential issues with non-compliance with planning permissions. A separate piece of work was underway to look at adding a monitoring fee as part of Section 106

agreements for larger developments, which could be used to resource effective monitoring in these cases

- The health and safety of enforcement officers was considered.

The Chair highlighted that the report was to be considered by Cabinet on 15 October 2024. He noted that there was a general level of support for the proposed plan within the committee and noted that the comments raised by the committee, summarised above, would be presented to Cabinet for their review.

17. **Review of the Dorset Council Waste Strategy**

The committee considered a report of the Head of Service for Commercial Waste and Strategy, which presented the Dorset Council Waste Strategy to set out the strategic vision and framework for how the council would deal with waste in Dorset in the longer term, but with a focus on actions over the next 5 years due to the significant legislative changes anticipated.

Councillors reviewed the issues arising from the report and during discussion the following points were noted:

- Link with the review of fleet requirements
- Acknowledgment of future challenges from changes in legislation and a request that councillors be kept informed
- Reference to fly tipping and action being taken in this area linking in with the Police and Crime Commissioner
- A suggestion was made that, in respect of tackling issues with commercial waste in holiday lets, there could be a link with parish and town councils for notifying where premises were
- Issues raised regarding missed bin collections and the implications of road closures on collection rounds
- Engagement would be undertaken with ward members ahead of any changes to collection routes
- There would be a future review of household recycling centres (HRCs) across the council area and this would include engagement with councillors
- Further work was required in respect of policy objective 4 – Develop and enhance a network of local waste management facilities that enables Dorset to collect, deliver, store, transport and treat waste efficiently and effectively
- The infrastructure for waste management represented a key challenge which linked to a wider depot review and the strategic asset management programme
- How HRCs outside of the Dorset Council area were reflected in the council's strategy was raised
- It was noted that the Waste Strategy was the high-level document that other work streams such as the HRC Strategy sat underneath
- An assurance was sought in respect of the importance of HRCs within the council's strategy in this area.

Recommendation to Cabinet

That the revised Dorset Waste Strategy be approved.

18. **Dorset Council Contaminated Land Strategy 2024**

The committee received and considered a report of the Environmental Health Officer, to present the Dorset Council Contaminated Land Strategy 2024, which replaced, updated and unified precursor councils' individual strategies and ensured that activities continued to reflect current law and good practice in this area. This would ensure that risks from land contamination to human health, property and the environment would continue to be appropriately and efficiently managed.

Recommendation to Cabinet

That the Dorset Council Contaminated Land Strategy 2024 be approved.

19. **Place and Resources Overview Committee Work Programme**

Councillors reviewed the committee work programme and items scheduled for future meetings. The Chair reported that following the informal meeting to discuss the draft work programme and consultation with committee members and the wider Council membership, a number of potential items were being worked up with officers and would be added to the work programme.

A point was made that the committee needed to be sighted on items at an earlier stage in order to have adequate time to comment and contribute to the development of policies and strategies.

The Chair noted items to be considered by forthcoming meetings of the Joint Overview Committee.

Councillors considered potential items for future consideration which included issues around the development of the new Local Plan and a request for earlier involvement in the production of the Growth and Economic Regeneration Strategy.

20. **Urgent items**

There were no urgent items.

21. **Exempt Business**

There was no exempt business.

APPENDIX 1 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Agenda item 5 – Public Participation

Question received

Question from Carole Chedgy – Vice Chair Allendale Community Centre

I am a Trustee and Vice Chair of the Allendale Community Centre, a registered charity, in Wimborne, Dorset. We have a lease of the Allendale Centre from Dorset Council from 2nd April 2020 to 1st April 2035.

Essential repairs (including a leaking roof) which are due to be carried out by Dorset Council under the lease and agreements have been planned since 2020. There is a report of 139 pages by Crickmay Stark Architects of December 2022 commissioned by DC setting out the work to be done, plus many other subsequent reports and plans and surveys. Two planned dates for the work to be done in 2023 and 2024 have been cancelled by DC.

In August an officer told us the work had been “pulled” as the Centre is part of a regeneration and development zone.

We have read the report and plan at item 7 on the agenda. This refers to a 3 year plan.

Our question is has the work been “pulled” because of this document, and whether or not this is the case, will DC immediately carry out the vital and necessary work planned 4 years ago so that it complies with the lease and agreements made?

Response provided at the meeting

The deferral of the works isn’t related to Strategic Asset Management Plan being discussed at item 7.

At this stage, the works have been temporarily deferred to ensure that the proposed programme of significant roof repairs on the Allendale Centre represents value for money and the following points should be noted:

1. A recent survey report dated 2024 identified additional repairs externally on the Centre and we want to ensure that a new roof represents the best option, given the increasing costs of the roof
2. The Council has a limited capital investment allocation in 24-25 and the priority is to ensure all facilities are safe, legal and compliant ahead of major building improvements. These are being prioritised on a condition basis.
3. A strategic review of DC owned accommodation in Wimborne is underway in order to support the emerging towns strategy. This review – supported by Cllr Bartlett- will include the former magistrates court, former Pippins site, Movie Makers Hut and St Johns Ambulance site and it’s important to reflect the Allendale Centre as part of that review.

A decision will be made in the near future, and before the end of this year, and we’ll provide an update to yourself.

Duration of meeting: 10.00 am - 12.50 pm

Chairman

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Place and Resources Overview Committee 21 November 2024 Active Travel Infrastructure Plan

For Review and Consultation

Cabinet Member and Portfolio:

Cllr J Andrews, Place Services

Local Councillor(s):

All

Executive Director:

Jan Britton, Executive Lead for Place

Report Author: Christopher Peck

Job Title: Principal Transport Planner

Tel: 01305221883

Email: Christopher.peck@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Report Status: Public

Brief Summary:

The Active Travel Infrastructure Plan sets out the network plans for walking, cycling and wheeling. It identifies where improvements to the network are required and sets out priorities for the areas covered. Ensuring that Dorset is making the most of its active travel infrastructure will be a key underpinning contributory factor in the delivery of the Climate and Ecological Emergency strategy, and will also support the emerging Dorset Council travel plan.

The plans cover the main urban areas of south and east Dorset and most of the market towns, representing 85% of Dorset's population and schools that account for 91% of the school pupils.

A public engagement exercise was undertaken in December 2023-January 2024. 979 responses were received, and the outputs have been used to inform the proposed network plans.

Recommendation:

Place and Resources Overview Committee is invited to consider the approach taken to the development of the draft Active Travel Infrastructure Plan, including the public survey and draft reports and to comment as appropriate.

Reason for Recommendation:

Comments from the Committee in response to this report will inform the development of the Active Travel Infrastructure Plan before adoption.

1. Context

- 1.1 The Active Travel Infrastructure Plan (ATIP) is a strategic document setting out priorities for active travel infrastructure provision in the short, medium and long term.
- 1.2 Developing an ATIP will help Dorset Council:
 - meet its strategic objectives to increase sustainable travel, reduce private motor travel and increase physical activity, helping to contribute to a wide range of national and local policies and strategies, including the Climate and Ecological Emergency strategy;
 - set out a planned pipeline of active travel schemes ready for funding bids and aligned with future developments; and
 - ensure access to funding from central Government for active travel – dependent upon having a plan in place – is secured in future.
- 1.3 The ATIP development process is set out in technical guidance from the Department for Transport. Most local authorities have already adopted plans, including BCP Council.
- 1.4 The first stage in plan development involves analysing existing travel patterns, establishing the main trip destinations such as centres of employment, schools and town centres, augmented with background data such as the density of population, density of jobs and other demographic information.
- 1.5 This information is further supported by modelling of the potential for active travel for work and school trips, based on trip length and gradients

- encountered along the route. This helps inform and quantify which parts of the network are likely to generate the greatest benefit in terms of carbon saved, increased physical activity and car journeys shifted to active travel.
- 1.6 Barriers to active travel – whether physical, or due to hazardous road conditions or other factors are a fundamental part of the analysis and are in part informed by input from stakeholders and residents – see section 2 below.
 - 1.7 Key corridors linking neighbourhoods to destinations are then analysed and draft network plans for active travel produced.
 - 1.8 The plans set out the future priorities for active travel infrastructure at a strategic scale, with the aim being to focus on resolving the biggest barriers on the primary network for people walking, wheeling or cycling. They are not comprehensive plans for active travel on every road, street or path in the Dorset Council area.
 - 1.9 Prioritisation of the routes and any resulting schemes are based on the following criteria:
 - whether there is new housing proposed in the Local Plan near the route
 - the average deprivation of the area surrounding the route (using the Index of Multiple Deprivation)
 - the potential number of people cycling to work
 - the potential number of people cycling to school
 - the population living within 400 metres per km of route
 - the number of jobs within 400 metres per km of route
 - walking and cycling casualties per km of route
 - number of major destinations (town centres, schools, employment areas, significant leisure sites) within 100 metres of the route
2. **Public engagement**
- 2.1 Dorset Council undertook an online public engagement exercise on the development of the ATIP in December 2023 – January 2024. This survey asked residents their general views on active travel, showed the first draft plans for south and east Dorset and asked respondents for their input on

the barriers to active travel, such as busy roads or junctions which make active travel feel unsafe and might be difficult for less able people to cross or use.

- 2.2 979 responses to the public engagement exercise were received, including over 1,081 barriers on the draft plans and 480 additional routes submitted across the whole of Dorset.
- 2.3 The inputs to the public survey have been analysed and a report included in the Appendices, including maps showing where the barriers and routes submitted are located, mapped against the draft networks for each area.
- 2.4 Plans focus on links within and between urban areas in Dorset since these are locations where the greatest potential for active travel increase can be found. Wholly rural links or recreational paths that do not also provide a link between neighbourhoods and destinations, while important to communities, are not included in the ATIP. These are covered by other strategies, such as the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

3. **Draft network plans**

- 3.1 620 route sections have been examined, comprising 702 kilometres of roads and paths, of which 413kms are proposed only as cycling routes, covering longer distances, usually between settlements. 289kms of routes also have walking / wheeling potential – mainly within towns linking key destinations and town centres to neighbourhoods.
- 3.2 Network plans have been produced for the following areas:
 - East Dorset – including Wimborne Minster, Ferndown, Verwood, West Moors, West Parley and Corfe Mullen
 - South Dorset – Dorchester, Weymouth, Chickerell and Portland
 - Purbeck – Wareham, Upton, Swanage and Wool
 - Gillingham and Shaftesbury
 - Bridport and Lyme Regis
 - Blandford Forum, and
 - Sherborne

3.3 The areas for which draft network plans have been produced cover 85% of Dorset's population. Smaller villages, or those located a long way from where services are located, have not been included in the plans, except where they already lie on the National Cycle Network.

4. **Next steps**

4.1 If supported by the Committee and other stakeholders the finalised network plans and prioritised schemes will be put forward for adoption and published.

5. **Financial Implications**

5.1 Development of the plan has been supported through grant funding specifically for the purpose from Active Travel England, the Government's arms-length authority with responsibility for active travel policy and funding decisions. There is no cost to Dorset Council in producing the plan.

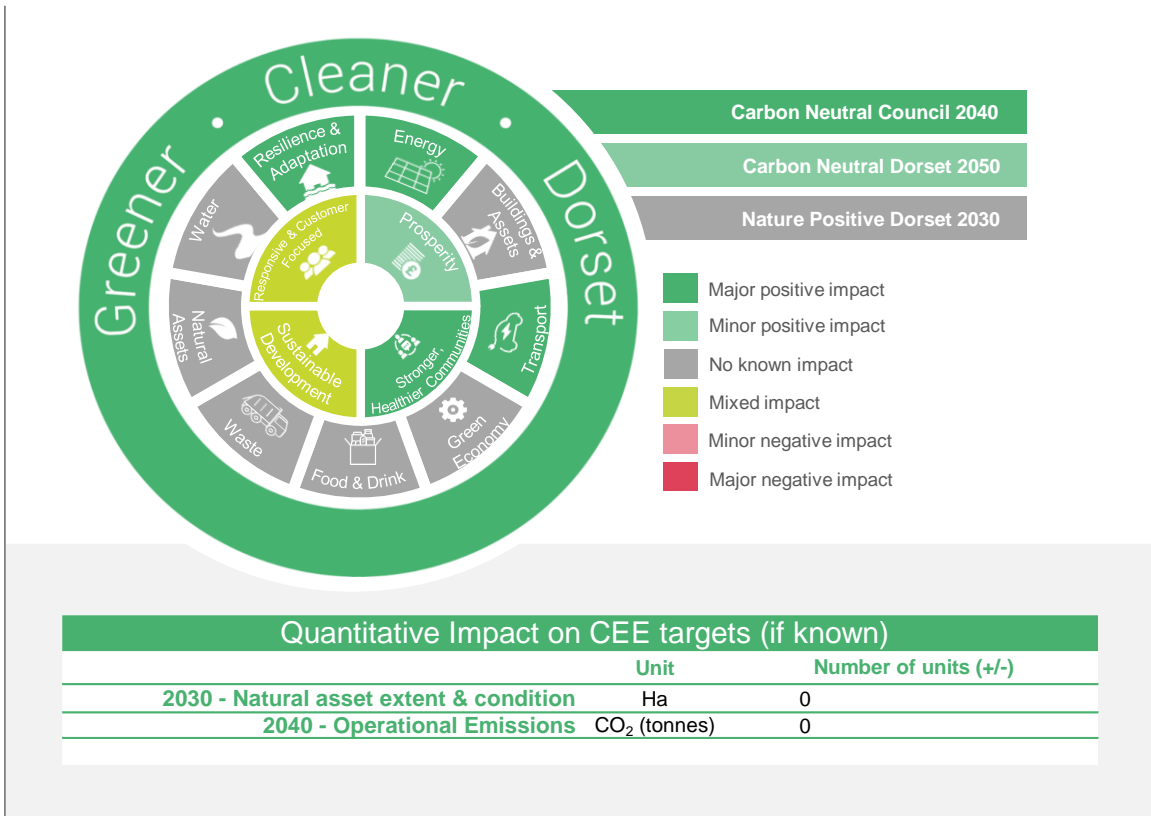
5.2 Having an Active Travel Infrastructure Plan in place is necessary to maintain future funding from Active Travel England, which has provided around £3.5m funding to support active travel scheme development in Dorset since its inception.

5.3 Improvements to active travel infrastructure can bring savings to the Council by reducing the requirements to provide school transport for pupils within walking distance of a school which are incurred when existing routes are deemed unsafe.

5.4 Ensuring an adequate safe active travel infrastructure exists in towns enables older or less able residents to retain independence and meet their local needs without access to a vehicle, helping – marginally – to reduce long term social care needs.

5.5 Active travel provision enables a realistic alternative to the many short journeys currently undertaken by private motor transport. This can help improve the efficient use of highway assets, reduce harmful emissions from travel, improve air quality and reduce the need for capacity improvements, maintenance costs and make more efficient use of parking capacity.

6. **Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Implications**



ACCESSIBLE TABLE SHOWING IMPACTS

Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Strategy Commitments	Impact
Energy	major positive impact
Buildings & Assets	No known impact
Transport	major positive impact
Green Economy	No known impact
Food & Drink	No known impact
Waste	No known impact
Natural Assets & Ecology	No known impact
Water	No known impact
Resilience and Adaptation	major positive impact

Corporate Plan Aims	Impact
Prosperity	minor positive impact
Stronger healthier communities	strongly supports it
Sustainable Development & Housing	neutral
Responsive & Customer Focused	neutral

7. **Well-being and Health Implications**

- 7.1 Improving the network for active travel will enable more residents to choose to walk, wheel or cycle in their neighbourhoods, benefiting from regular physical activity as well as helping to build and maintain social relationships locally.
- 7.2 Reduced motor traffic as a result of any shift to active modes for short journeys in towns also offers the potential to improve safety as well as reducing air and noise pollution.
- 7.3 Higher levels of active travel in communities can also lead to improved community safety through increased natural surveillance.

8. **Other Implications**

- 8.1 No other implications have been identified.

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 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been developed for the plan, in part informed by the public engagement exercise. Improvements to active travel will be of particular benefit to disabled people and disadvantaged communities.
- 10.2 Over 23,000 households in Dorset do not have access to a vehicle and are therefore likely to be more reliant on active travel both as a means of transport in itself, but also to access public transport. Access to better conditions for active travel is particularly beneficial to disabled people, older people, younger people and other groups who are less likely to have access to a vehicle.

11. **Appendices**

- [Appendix 1: Active Travel Infrastructure Plan Survey Report](#)
- [Appendix 2: Active Travel Infrastructure Plan public engagement survey analysis](#)

12. **Background Papers**

No background papers.

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 Overview Committee

21 November 2024

Economic Growth Strategy

For Review and Consultation

Cabinet Member and Portfolio:

Cllr R Biggs, Property & Assets and Economic Growth

Local Councillor(s):

All Cllrs

Executive Director:

Jan Britton, Executive Lead for Place

Report Author: Nick Webster

Job Title: Head of Growth and Regeneration

Tel:

Email: nicholas.webster@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Report Status: Public

Brief Summary:

Following agreement from Cabinet on 15th October 24 to the broad approach taken to the production of a new Economic Growth Strategy for Dorset, this report offers Members of Place and Resources Overview Committee opportunity to consider and make recommendations on the identified key issues, the proposed approach to engagement, and the key sectors and major project opportunities that could be considered within the Strategy, and any other thoughts they have for the Strategy production.

Recommendation:

To consider and comment on an approach for the production of a new Economic Growth Strategy including the approach to consultation with the business community and key stakeholders.

Reason for Recommendation:

1. **Background**

- 1.1 The new Economic Growth strategy is a very significant document which is being produced at a critical time. Locally the council is adapting to a new world which brings a wide range of economic challenges and opportunities as it seeks to build a fairer, greener and more prosperous society.
- 1.2 For the past decade strategic economic planning has been the preserve of the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership (Dorset LEP), directed by government, whether in the form of Industrial Strategies, Strategic Economic Plans, or Growth Deals. These LEP led initiatives were pan Dorset and reflective of the shared economic challenges and sectors Dorset held with the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole geography.
- 1.3 The Dorset LEP will close in March 2025, and this represents an opportunity for the council to move boldly forward into a new direct relationship with both businesses and government, set out in a strategy that is specific to Dorset.
- 1.4 Dorset deserves a strategy which is representative of its unique economic geography and specific business sectors. A strategy that considers an approach to growth regardless of location but also plays on localised strengths and opportunities.
- 1.5 It should consider how we move the county economy from fairly traditional industries such as agriculture, retail, hospitality and leisure, and care services, to an economy built upon embedding digital technology across all sectors, investing in our advanced and often bespoke manufacturing sector, and making more of our natural advantages in clean energy, maritime and defence.
- 1.6 The strategy will set out how the council will proactively engage at a strategic level with the various town Chambers of Commerce and Business Improvement Districts to ensure locality needs are captured. To supplement this approach, we will also need to have a distinctive relationship with the Dorset Chamber of Commerce as the link into the British Chambers of Commerce and their lobbying influence with government.
- 1.7 Similarly, Dorset can have a reset with national government. By using the strategy to clearly articulate our growth prospects and where we require investment to support major projects and opportunities, the council can demonstrate to government Dorset's own contribution to growing national productivity.

- 1.8 The strategy will reflect the firm commitment to the ongoing aim of enabling a vibrant local economy. The council wants to build a strong, sustainable economy for our future so that Dorset can achieve its maximum potential for the benefit of everyone who lives, works and visits the county. This requires a very particular focus on our people, our places and our businesses.

Economic Context

- 1.9 Dorset has a significant economy incorporating 20,000 businesses, generating over £8.45b of GVA and supporting 145,000 jobs. The business base is varied with particular strengths in tourism, advanced engineering & manufacturing, and defence and security with many businesses delivering innovative and exciting products. Much of the Dorset landscape is protected reflecting the high-quality natural offer, whilst the varied market and coastal towns offer unique and attractive visitor experiences, making a significant contribution towards the 18.6m tourists who visit the county.
- 1.10 Despite the strength of the Dorset offer, there are a number of significant economic challenges the county is facing. High numbers of people are employed in the traditional industries of tourism, retail, and agriculture which tend to be lower paying. Access to skilled labour and good communication linkages varies considerably across the county. Digital and mobile phone connectivity, especially in rural areas, is unreliable and large numbers of Dorset's brightest and best young people move out of the county to find employment, education and entertainment.
- 1.11 Dorset Council recognises that a shift change is required to break this cycle of slow growth, low aspirations and poor attainment. A starting point is the recognition that our key economic challenges are:
- Demographics: By 2033, over half of Dorset's population will be over retirement age, with all other age groups declining. Dorset has net in migration of elderly people and those close to retirement age.
 - Productivity. Productivity has stalled over the last 25 years, increasing by only 6% during that period.
 - Skills. Recruiting and retaining people with the right skills is increasingly becoming a significant issue for businesses across all sectors and is inhibiting their growth.

- Housing affordability. Connected to both of the above, skilled workers are put off relocating to Dorset due to high house prices and lower paid employment, whilst many locals struggle with housing affordability.

1.12 These challenges are all interlinked and tackling them will require a concerted approach. The council is committed to producing a new strategy and approach to tackling economic growth in a sustainable and equitable manner.

Identifying Opportunity

1.13 Dorset is already a county of innovation, with world leading maritime, defence, and manufacturing businesses, accompanied by a world class tourism offer and industry, and an emerging expertise in offshore wind and clean energy. However, there is a need to introduce scale into these sectors and identify opportunities that could make a real, and significant difference to the county's economic performance.

1.14 Projects such as the Hinkley Point power station or the battery cell factory at Gravity Employment Park, both in Somerset, bring significant direct investment and employment in addition to more dispersed supply chain benefits. Were Dorset able to identify and capture projects nearing that kind of scale there would be immediate and longer lasting benefits.

1.15 Projects of this scale require considerable investment and planning but also have considerable additional beneficial impacts. For example, additional school and college courses to capitalise on both the construction and implementation phases of projects, food and accommodation suppliers for those working on large construction sites, and longer-term repair and maintenance contracts.

1.16 The council is aware of a number of large-scale project opportunities which, if successful, would deliver economic benefit on a significant, and potentially nationally important, scale. Some of the major project opportunities are:

- Off-shore wind generation, manufacturing and support.
- Market and Coastal Towns
- Green Hydrogen
- Dorset Innovation Park (DIP)

- 1.17 Any identified major opportunities will be key to the strategy's success. Importantly, in addition to the local benefits these projects would demonstrate Dorset's ability to make a national level contribution, bring government awareness and support, and attract future private sector investment. They would help us demonstrate that Dorset is open for business.

Leadership and Partnership - Producing the Economic Growth Strategy

- 1.18 The Economic Growth strategy will set out how Dorset will tackle its economic challenges, react to the national political drive for growth, and use its strengths and assets to deliver meaningful and long-lasting change. It will recognise that the council can be a key enabler of economic growth through its direct delivery and sponsorship of projects but also through working in partnership with private sector investors and innovators.
- 1.19 As one of the priority areas identified in the Council Plan, the Economic Growth strategy will set out the key economic challenges and opportunities for Dorset and act as a specific delivery strategy for the Council Plan ambitions.
- 1.20 In this function it will align with other key council strategies such as the Housing strategy, Strategic Asset Management Plan and Local Plan. The strategy will be an essential strategic reference document for other council plans and strategies for example the Portland, Weymouth, Dorchester corridor masterplan and the visitor economy strategy.
- 1.21 The work on collecting an evidence base to support this new approach has already begun. Some of the collected evidence can be viewed in appendix 1. To supplement demographic and economic data a strong engagement programme will be conducted with the business community and key stakeholders.
- 1.22 Face to face engagement events are currently planned to be held in Dorchester, Shaftesbury, Wimborne or Ferndown, Bridport, Swanage, and Weymouth. These will be led by the Dorset Chamber of Commerce and involve local Chambers, Town Councils, and other key partners. (Please note that at point of report writing these events have not been finalised.)
- 1.23 The face to face events will be supplemented by an online questionnaire, accessible on the council website, and a series of on-line webinars with key sector groups or partners for example town and parish councils, young

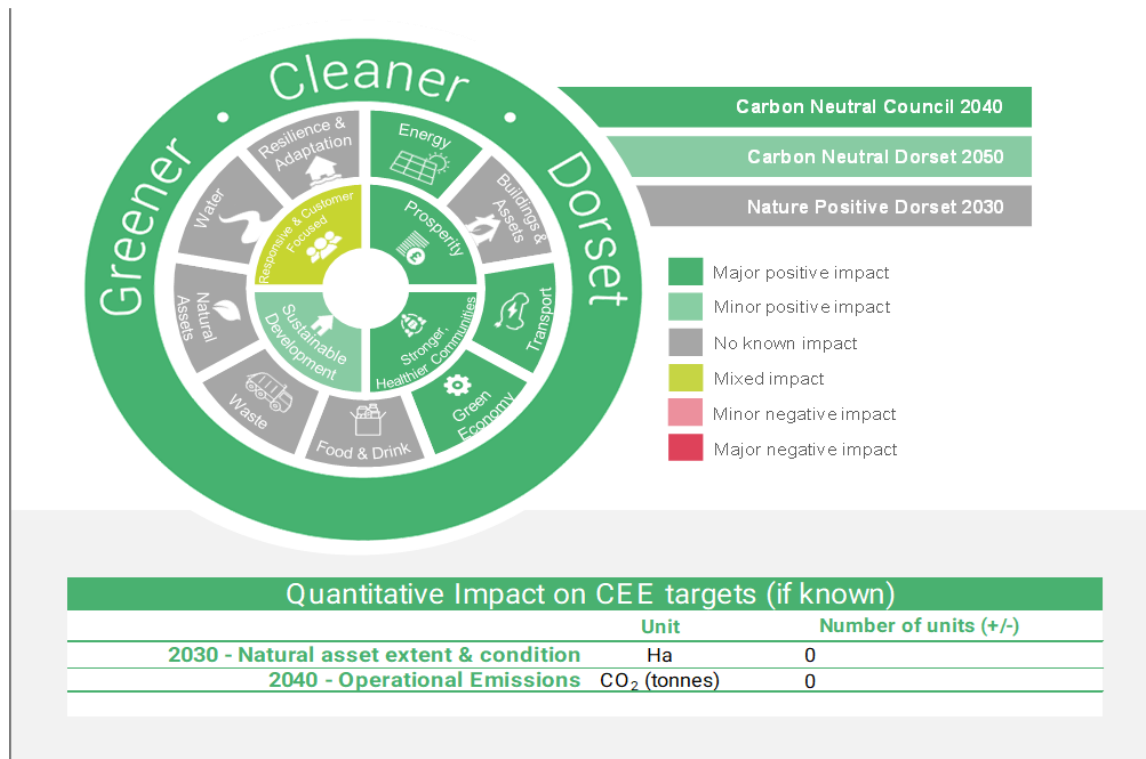
people, and key industrial sectors. This will all result in a very robust set of evidenced data from the business community to inform the strategy production.

- 1.24 Members' involvement and engagement will be extremely important in ensuring the strategy has cross party-political support. It is proposed to undertake an ongoing programme of Member and employee engagement to inform the strategy content focused through working groups addressing the key issues. These will be facilitated by relevant key officers and contribute both towards the evidence base and Action Plan development.
- 1.25 Engagement and strategy development will proceed throughout the autumn and early winter of 2024 with a final version likely to be ready for approval in early 2025.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 There are no financial implications from this decision. All costs associated with the production of the strategy will be covered from within the existing Economic Growth and Regeneration team budget.
- 2.2 There will likely be financial implications for the council as a result of the final Economic Growth strategy or any accompanying Action Plan. These implications will be included in any decision report required at that time.

3. Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Implications



4. Well-being and Health Implications

3.1 There are no direct well-being or health implications from a decision to develop a new Economic Growth strategy. However, a reinvigorated approach to economic growth with a refreshed Economic Growth Strategy and accompanying Action Plan will tackle underlying adverse economic conditions which would lead to an increase in people's well-being through more and better paid employment, more affordable housing, and more inclusive communities.

5. Other Implications

5.1 None at this stage

6. Risk Assessment

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

Current Risk: Low
Residual Risk: Low

7. Equalities Impact Assessment

- 7.1 At this stage the potential equalities impacts are assessed as positive due to the principals proposed, particularly to support economic growth, communities, and skills development. However, the high-level principles of a Strategy approach preclude detailed and meaningful assessment.
- 7.2 Each identified action or project within the Action Plan that requires a formal decision from the council will conduct a specific equalities impact assessment considering in detail the impact on groups with protected characteristics.

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

10. 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 Overview Committee Draft Work Programme

Meeting Date: 30 January 2025

Report Title	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officers / Councillors	Other Information
<p>Growth and Economic Regeneration Strategy</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 27</p>	<p>To consider 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 (LEP) in accordance with devolution and promote the needs and actions required to drive forward the economy in the Dorset Council area</p>	<p>Helen Heanes (Principal Economic Development Officer) Jon Bird (Service Manager, Growth & Economic Regeneration) Councillor Richard Biggs (Deputy Leader, Cabinet member for Property & Assets, Economic Growth & Levelling Up)</p>	<p>To be considered by Cabinet on 25 February 2025</p>
<p>Update of Carbon Reduction Targets</p>	<p>To revise and bring forward the carbon reduction targets set out in the Council's Natural Environment, Climate and Ecology Strategy</p>	<p>Antony Littlechild (Sustainability Team Manager) Carl Warom (Climate & Ecology Policy Officer) Cllr Nick Ireland (Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Performance & Safeguarding)</p>	<p>To be considered by Cabinet on 25 March 2025</p>

Continued over...

Report Title	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officers / Councillors	Other Information
Customer Strategy	Presentation of the new Customer Strategy. This is an enabling strategy underpinned by the Transformation Strategy to be considered by Cabinet in January 2025, as part of the Council's approach to provide easy to access, modern and efficient services that meet the needs and expectations of our customers	<p>Lisa Cotton (Corporate Director TCCS) and Anthony Palumbo (Head of Customer)</p> <p>Cllr Ryan Hope (Cabinet Member for Customer, Culture & Community Engagement)</p>	Decision to be made by Cabinet Member
Draft Dorset Local Nature Recovery Strategy	The Government has asked each county in England to create a local nature recovery strategy. In Dorset, Dorset Council has been tasked with coordinating the creation of our county's strategy, working closely with BCP Council, Natural England and a wide range of local people and organisations. The draft strategy is seeking comments from the overview committee and its supporting authorities (BCP Council and Natural England) before it goes out to full public consultation.	<p>Ken Buchan (Head of Environment & Wellbeing), Bridget Betts (Environment/Policy/Partnership Manager)</p> <p>Cllr Nick Ireland (Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Performance & Safeguarding)</p>	

Meeting Date: 13 March 2025

Report Title	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officers / Councillors	Other Information
<i>Review of policies to be undertaken and prioritised for review by the committee</i>			

Informal work of the committee:

Date	Topic	Format	Councillors	Lead Officers	Other Information

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The Cabinet Forward Plan - December 2024 to March 2025 (Publication date – 18 NOVEMBER 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 -

- (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 Members and Portfolios 2024/25

Nick Ireland	Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Performance and Safeguarding
Richard Biggs	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Property & Assets and Economic Growth
Jon Andrews	Place Services
Shane Bartlett	Planning and Emergency Planning
Simon Clifford	Finance & Capital Strategy
Ryan Hope	Customer, Culture and Community Engagement
Steve Robinson	Adult Social Care
Clare Sutton	Children's Services, Education & Skills
Gill Taylor	Health and Housing.
Ben Wilson	Corporate Development and Transformation

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

<p>Independent Reviewing Officer's Annual Report</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To consider the Independent Reviewing Officer's Annual Report.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 17 Dec 2024</p>		<p>Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills</p>	<p><i>Sunita Khattra-Hall, Corporate Director for Quality Assurance and Safeguarding Families sunita.khattra-hall@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Children</i></p>
<p>Annual Local Authority Designated Officer Report</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To consider the Annual LADO Report.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 17 Dec 2024</p>		<p>Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills</p>	<p><i>Sunita Khattra-Hall, Corporate Director for Quality Assurance and Safeguarding Families sunita.khattra-hall@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Children</i></p>
<p>Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme Project Outline Business Case</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>The Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme is a £3m DEFRA fully funded project. It intends to help the communities of North Swanage and Charmouth to better adapt to a changing, eroding coastline. The Environment Agency is supportive of the project and business.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 17 Dec 2024</p>		<p>Cabinet Member for Place Services</p>	<p><i>Matthew Penny, Service Manager - Flood & Coastal Erosion matthew.penny@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Ken Buchan, Head of Environment and Wellbeing ken.buchan@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk 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
<p>Purbeck Pleasure Boat Byelaw 2013 amended</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>To authorise officers to proceed with work to amend the Purbeck Pleasure Boat Byelaw 2013 and to carry out engagement with user groups and a formal public consultation on the new draft byelaw.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 17 Dec 2024</p>		<p>Cabinet Member for Place Services</p>	<p><i>Bridget Betts, Environmental Advice Manager bridget.betts@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Lead for Place Directorate (Jan Britton)</i></p>
<p>Alderholt Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2023</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>Report relating to the 'making' (adoption) of the Alderholt Neighbourhood Plan following examination and pending a successful outcome in the referendum.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 17 Dec 2024</p>		<p>Cabinet Member for Planning and Emergency Planning</p>	<p><i>Ed Gerry, Community Planning Manager ed.gerry@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Lead for Place Directorate (Jan Britton)</i></p>
<p>Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan Review</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>Report relating to the "making" (adoption) of the Bland + Neighbourhood Plan Review. The Review that has been undertaken is a minor (non-material) modification review. Therefore, there has been no requirement for an examination or referendum.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 17 Dec 2024</p>		<p>Cabinet Member for Planning and Emergency Planning</p>	<p><i>Ed Gerry, Community Planning Manager ed.gerry@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk 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
<p>Urgent & Emergency Care transformation Programme (integrated care system)</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>Including ratification of Partnership Agreement.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 17 Dec 2024</p>		<p>Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care</p>	<p><i>Louise Ford, Strategic Health and Adult Social Care Integration Lead louise.ford@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, People - Adults (Jonathan Price)</i></p>
<p>Dorset National Landscape Management Plan (Interim)</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access -</p> <p>The Dorset National Landscape Management Plan (hereafter "Plan") is a material consideration in planning decisions. The current plan expires in this year. Normally a new full plan would have been adopted early in this financial year, but the National Landscapes were granted an extension as various pieces of critical government guidance and related policy had not been completed. In the letter granting the extension, the minister laid out the need for an "plan on a page" to cover the period between expiry and adoption of a new full plan. This interim plan meets these needs and has been approved by the Dorset National Landscape Partnership Board.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 17 Dec 2024</p>		<p>Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Performance and Safeguarding</p>	<p><i>Ken Buchan, Head of Environment and Wellbeing ken.buchan@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Tom Munro, Dorset National Landscape Manager tom.munro@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk 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
January 2025					
<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>Cabinet Member for Finance & 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>Our Future Council Outline Business Case and Draft Transformation Plan</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full business case setting out case for change and vision for the future with options to deliver whole council transformation. • Final transformation plan more fully formed to support the delivery programme for OFC and provide detail on wider service transformation plans. • Setting out strategic framework for transformation for 2025-29 	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 28 Jan 2025</p>	<p>Joint Overview Committee</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Corporate Development and Transformation</p>	<p><i>Nina Coakley, Head of Change</i> <i>n.coakley@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Lisa Cotton, Corporate Director for Customer and Cultural Services</i> <i>lisa.cotton@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>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>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 Dorset Council</p>	<p>Decision Date 11 Feb 2025</p>	<p>People and Health Scrutiny Committee 16 Jan 2025 Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee 17 Jan 2025 Cabinet 28 Jan 2025</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Finance & 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>February</p>					
<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 devolution 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 25 Feb 2025</p>	<p>Place and Resources Overview Committee 21 Nov 2024 Place and Resources Overview Committee 30 Jan 2025</p>	<p>Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Property & Assets and Economic Growth</p>	<p><i>Jon Bird, Service Manager for Growth and Economic Regeneration</i> <i>jon.bird@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Nick Webster, Head of Growth and Economic Regeneration</i> <i>nicholas.webster@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Lead for Place Directorate (Jan Britton)</i></p>
<p>March</p>					

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
<p>Update of Carbon Reduction Targets</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>Paper to revise and bring forward the carbon reduction targets set out in the Council's Natural Environment, Climate and Ecology Strategy.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 25 Mar 2025</p>	<p>Place and Resources Overview Committee 30 Jan 2025</p>	<p>Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Performance and Safeguarding</p>	<p><i>Antony Littlechild, Sustainability Team Manager antony.littlechild@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer (Aidan Dunn)</i></p>
<p>Enterprise Resource Performance System (Outline Business Case)</p> <p>Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open</p> <p>The current DES system which is supported by SAP will be end of life in 2027 and therefore will need to be replaced. We have been working with Socitm Advisory (external consultancy) to investigate the options available. The outline business case is to be presented to Cabinet for their approval.</p>	<p>Decision Maker Cabinet</p>	<p>Decision Date 25 Mar 2025</p>		<p>Cabinet Member for Corporate Development and Transformation</p>	<p><i>James Ailward, Head of ICT Operations james.ailward@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place</i></p>

Private/Exempt Items for Decision

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

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