



Dorset Council

Date: Thursday, 10 July 2025
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

All members of Dorset Council are requested to attend this meeting of the Full Council.

Interim Chief Executive: Sam Crowe, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic Services
Meeting Contact susan.dallison@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. If you would like to attend this meeting and have any specific requirements please contact the Democratic Services Officer named above.

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Agenda

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1. APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. MINUTES

5 - 40

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2025.

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 decision 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 ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive any announcements from the Chair of Council.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - QUESTIONS

A period of 30 minutes is allocated to receive and respond to questions and statements on the business of the Council in the following order:

- (a) Questions and statements from Town and Parish Councils;
- (b) Questions and statements from those living or working in the Dorset Council area;

A person or organisation can submit either 1 question or 1 statement at 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 Full Council this will be circulated to all members of the council in advance of the meeting as a supplement to the agenda and appended to the minutes of the meeting for the formal record, but it will not be read out at the meeting. The first 8 questions and the first 8 statements received by Democratic Services will be accepted on a first come first served basis in accordance with the deadline below:

The full text of the question or statement must be received by 8.30am on Monday 7 July 2025. All submissions must be emailed to susan.dallison@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

When submitting your question or statement please note that:

- You can submit 1 question or 1 statement for each meeting;
- A question may include a pre-amble to set the context, each question, including the pre-amble can consist of up to **450 words** and you will be given up to **3 minutes** to read out your question;
- Sub-divided questions will not be accepted;
- When submitting a question please indicate who the question is for, i.e. the name of the Cabinet member;
- You will need to include your full name, address and contact details;
- All questions and statements will be published with the minutes of the meeting as a matter of public record.

Before submitting your question or statement please read the Council's Procedure Rules paragraphs 9.1 – 9.12 to ensure that your question/statement is compliant.

[Part 2 Rules of Procedure - Council and Committee Procedure Rules.pdf](#)

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

A period of 15 minutes is allocated to receive and respond to petitions in accordance with the council's petitions scheme.

A period of 15 minutes is allocated to receive and respond to deputations in accordance with the council's constitution.

The petitions scheme and procedures relating to deputations can be viewed at:

[Council Procedure Rules](#)

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS FROM THE LEADER OF COUNCIL AND CABINET MEMBERS

To receive any announcements and reports from the Leader of Council and members of the Cabinet.

8. ELECTORAL REVIEW OF DORSET COUNCIL WARDS 41 - 48

To consider a report by the Service Manager, Democratic Services & Electoral Services.

9. AN UPDATE TO THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION 49 - 56

To consider a report by the Corporate Director, Finance & Commercial.

10. NOTICE OF MOTION - RECYCLING BOOKING SYSTEM CHALLENGE 57 - 58

To consider a Notice of Motion proposed by Cllr G Suttle, seconded by Cllr L O'Leary.

11. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

To receive questions submitted by councillors. The deadline for receipt of questions is 8.30am on Monday 7 July 2025.

12. 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.

13. 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 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 is no exempt business scheduled for this meeting.

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DORSET COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15 MAY 2025

Present: Cllrs Stella Jones (Chair), Les Fry (Vice-Chair), Jon Andrews, Mike Baker, Shane Bartlett, Laura Beddow, Derek Beer, Matt Bell, Richard Biggs, Bridget Bolwell, Dave Bolwell, Louise Bown, Alex Brenton, Piers Brown, Ray Bryan, Andy Canning, Will Chakawhata, Simon Christopher, Simon Clifford, Toni Coombs, Barrie Cooper, Peter Dickenson, Neil Eysenck, Beryl Ezzard, Scott Florek, Spencer Flower, Alex Fuhrmann, Simon Gibson, Barry Goringe, Jill Haynes, Hannah Hobbs-Chell, Sally Holland, Ryan Holloway, Ryan Hope, Rob Hughes, Nick Ireland, Jack Jeanes, Sherry Jespersen, Carole Jones, Paul Kimber, Chris Kippax, Nocturin Lacey-Clarke, Robin Legg, Cathy Lugg, Craig Monks, David Morgan, Steve Murcer, David Northam, Louie O'Leary, Jon Orrell, Mike Parkes, Andrew Parry, Byron Quayle, Julie Robinson, Steve Robinson, Pete Roper, David Shortell, Jane Somper, Duncan Sowry-House, Andrew Starr, Clare Sutton, Roland Tarr, David Taylor, Gill Taylor, Andy Todd, David Tooke, James Vitali, Kate Wheller, Sarah Williams, Ben Wilson and Carl Woode

Apologies: Cllrs Jindy Atwal, Richard Crabb, Rory Major, Emma Parker, Val Potheary, Belinda Ridout, Andy Skeats and Gary Suttle

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

Jacqui Andrews (Service Manager for Democratic and Electoral Services), Jan Britton (Executive Director for Places Services), Kate Critchel (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Susan Dallison (Democratic Services Team Leader), George Dare (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Paul Dempsey (Executive Director of People - Children), Aidan Dunn (Executive Director - Corporate Development S151), Jennifer Lowis (Head of Strategic Communications and Engagement), Jonathan Mair (Director of Legal and Democratic and Monitoring Officer), Lindsey Watson (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Rachel Partridge (Acting Director of Public Health), Andrew Billany (Corporate Director for Housing) and Julia Ingram (Corporate Director for Adult Social Care Operations)

1. Election of Chair

It was proposed by Cllr N Ireland seconded by Cllr R Hughes that Cllr S Jones be elected Chair of the Council for the 2025/26 municipal year.

There were no other nominations.

Decision

That Cllr S Jones be elected as Chair of the Council for 2025/26 municipal year.

The Chair thanked the members of Council and in particular Cllr L Fry for his support as Vice-chair. She then made and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

2. Election of Vice-chair

It was proposed by Cllr N Lacey-Clarke and seconded by Cllr R Hughes that Cllr L Fry be elected Vice-Chair for 2025/26 municipal year.

There were no other nominations.

Decision

That Cllr L Fry be elected as Vice-Chair of the Council for 2025/26 municipal year.

Cllr L Fry thanked the Council for their support and then made and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2025 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made at the meeting.

5. Chair's Announcements

The Chair of Council announced the death of Cllr B Trite. Cllr Trite had been a Purbeck councillor since 1996, a Swanage councillor for more than 34 years and had held the office of Swanage Mayor on three occasions. He became a member of Dorset County Council in 2009 and became the Vice-chair of Dorset Council in 2023-2024. Tributes to Cllr Trite would be made at the next meeting of Full Council in July.

The Chair invited those present in the Council Chamber to stand for one minute of silence in his memory.

The Chair welcomed representatives of the Youth Council, who addressed the Council on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

6. Motion on Notice - United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

Full Council received the following Notice of Motion proposed by Cllr D Sowry-House, seconded by Cllr C Sutton and supported by Cllr Belinda Bawden, Cllr Les Fry, Cllr Hannah Hobbs-Chell, Cllr Pete Roper, Cllr Rob Hughes, Cllr Kate Wheller, Cllr Paul Kimber, Cllr Noc Lacey-Clarke, Cllr Nick Ireland, Cllr Stella Jones, Cllr Ryan Hope, Cllr Steve Robinson, Cllr Gill Taylor, Cllr Simon Clifford, Cllr Bridget Bolwell, Cllr Dave Bolwell, Cllr Louise Bown, Cllr Will Chakawhata, Cllr

Neil Eysenck, Cllr Beryl Ezzard, Cllr Scott Florek, Cllr Alex Fuhrmann, Cllr Sally Holland, Cllr Jack Jeans, Cllr David Taylor, Cllr David Tooke, Cllr Sarah Williams, Cllr Matt Bell, Cllr Andy Todd, Cllr Richard Crabb and Cllr Chris Kippax.

Motion Narrative and Action Required

This council recognises the importance of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) as a fundamental framework for the protection and promotion of children's rights globally. As Dorset Council, we are committed to ensuring that all children and young people within our jurisdiction are afforded the rights and protections enshrined in the UNCRC.

Background:

The UNCRC, adopted in 1989, outlines the civil, political, economic, social, health, and cultural rights of children. It emphasises the importance of children's voices in matters that affect them and acknowledges their right to a safe environment, education, and health care.

Whereas:

- The UNCRC has been ratified by 196 countries, making it the most widely accepted human rights treaty in history.
- Children are a vulnerable group requiring specific rights and protections to ensure their well-being and development.
- Upholding the UNCRC aligns with our commitment to human rights, social justice, and the welfare of all residents.
- The local authority has an obligation to consider the best interests of the child in all decisions and policies affecting them.

Motion

That this Council: -

1. Affirms its commitment to the principals and provisions of the UNCRC and integrates these into local policies and practices, complimenting the delivery of Dorset Council's 10 yr plan for children, young people and families, aiming to be a Rights Respecting Authority.
2. Establishes a Children's Rights Committee to oversee the implementation of the UNCRC within our authority, ensuring that children's voices are heard and considered in decision-making processes. This will include developing some of our young people as 'Rights Respecting Ambassadors as well as a Children's rights impact assessment.
3. Signposts training and awareness programs for council members and staff on the importance of children's rights and the UNCRC.
4. Engages with local communities, schools, and organisations to promote understanding of children's rights and encourage active participation from children in matters that affect them.

5. Declares that Corporate Parents as duty bearers, capturing all our children and young people, we uphold the United Nations Convention of The Rights of The Child and identify as a Rights Respecting Authority.
6. Requires that all policies, procedures and interactions involving our children and young people are mindful of relevant articles from the UNCRC

By adopting this motion, we reaffirm our dedication to creating an environment where all children can thrive, ensuring their rights are respected and upheld in our community.

End of Motion

Conclusion:

We urge all council members to support this motion to uphold the UNCRC, demonstrating our commitment to safeguarding the rights of every child and young person in our care and fostering a society where they can reach their full potential.

In accordance with procedure rule 14.3 (a) the Notice of Motion, upon being proposed and seconded was debated by Full Council. Members broadly supported the motion and upon being put to the vote the motion was approved.

Decision

That this Council: -

1. Affirms its commitment to the principals and provisions of the UNCRC and integrates these into local policies and practices, complimenting the delivery of Dorset Council's 10 yr plan for children, young people and families, aiming to be a Rights Respecting Authority.
2. Establishes a Children's Rights Committee to oversee the implementation of the UNCRC within our authority, ensuring that children's voices are heard and considered in decision-making processes. This will include developing some of our young people as 'Rights Respecting Ambassadors as well as a Children's rights impact assessment.
3. Signposts training and awareness programs for council members and staff on the importance of children's rights and the UNCRC.
4. Engages with local communities, schools, and organisations to promote understanding of children's rights and encourage active participation from children in matters that affect them.
5. Declares that Corporate Parents as duty bearers, capturing all our children and young people, we uphold the United Nations Convention of The Rights of The Child and identify as a Rights Respecting Authority.
6. Requires that all policies, procedures and interactions involving our children and young people are mindful of relevant articles from the UNCRC.

7. **Election of Leader of Council**

It was proposed by Cllr D Beer seconded by Cllr L Bowen that Cllr N Ireland be elected Leader of the Council 2025/26.

Decision

That Cllr N Ireland be elected as Leader of the Council 2025/26 municipal year.

8. **Appointment of Deputy Leader of Council and Cabinet Members**

The Leader of the Council announced the following appointments:

Deputy Leader – Cllr R Biggs

Cabinet Member for Property & Assets and Economic Growth – Cllr R Biggs

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care – Cllr S Robinson

Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills – Cllr C Sutton

Cabinet Member for Corporate Development and Transformation – Cllr B Wilson

Cabinet Member for Customer, Culture and Community Engagement – Cllr R Hope

Cabinet Member for Finance & Capital Strategy – Cllr S Clifford

Cabinet Member for Health and Housing – Cllr G Taylor

Cabinet Member for Place Services – Cllr J Andrews

Cabinet Member for Planning and Emergency Planning – Cllr S Bartlett

9. **Announcements and Reports from the Leader of Council and Cabinet Members**

Following on from the item above, the Leader of the Council set out some of the work currently being carried out within the portfolios across his Cabinet membership.

10. **Public Participation - questions**

There were two questions from members of the public and these were set out in Appendix A to these minutes.

At this point in the meeting, several members temporarily withdraw from the meeting and subsequently rejoined prior to the commencement of the deputation on the “Pathways to Work” green paper.

11. **Public participation - petitions and deputations. To receive 2 deputations**

The Issue: Dorset Pension Fund Investments in companies enabling crimes against humanity in Gaza and the West Bank, and violations of Palestinian rights.

A deputation was submitted by Rob Fergusson and Lisa-Jameela Musleh regarding Pension Fund Investments enabling crime against humanity.

In response to the deputation, the Chair of the Pension Fund Committee, Cllr A Canning, thanked Mr Fergusson for taking the time to speak to the Council on such an important and emotive subject.

Dorset Council had delegated its responsibilities as a Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) administering authority to a Pension Fund Committee, in common with most other LGPS administering authorities. Cllr Canning indicated that this valid matter of concern would be considered in more depth at the next Pension Fund Committee meeting on 24 June 2025. (A copy of the full statement and response is attached at Appendix B to these minutes.)

Deputation on the Pathways to Work green paper

A deputation was submitted by Siobhan Lennon-Patience on the government's Green Paper "Pathway to Work: Reforming Benefits and Support to Get Britain Working"

In response to the deputation, the Cabinet Member of Adult Social Care advised that Dorset Council prided itself on having a strengths-based approach to how it worked with people in need of social care support. It was important that the Council added its comments to the consultation process and the Cabinet member confirmed that officers would work collaboratively across Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Economic Development and other relevant teams to co-ordinate such a response. (A copy of the full statement and response is attached at Appendix B to these minutes.)

12. Appointments to Committees, Joint Committees and Boards and Election of Committee Chairs and Vice-chairs

The Director of Legal and Democratic presented a report setting out the proposed allocation of committee seats, in line with political balance rules and, in accordance with the Council constitution, to make appointments to committees, joint panels and boards. The report also included, at Appendix 4, the proposed Chair and Vice-chair nominations of ordinary committees for the forthcoming year.

It was proposed by Cllr N Ireland seconded by Cllr S Robinson

Decision

- (a) That the allocation of committee seats and the appointments to committees and joint boards and panel, as nominated by the political group leaders be approved for 2025/26, as set out in the report Appendices 1, 2 & 3 respectively.
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Director of Legal & Democratic, in consultation with the appropriate political group leader, to make in-year changes to committee, joint panels and board appointments.
- (c) That Full Council appoints committee Chair and Vice-chairs for the 2025/26 municipal year (nominations set out in Appendix 4).

13. **Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel - Dorset Council Scheme of Members' Allowances**

The Director of Legal and Democratic presented the Independent Remuneration Panel's findings and recommendations following their review of the Dorset Council Scheme of Member's Allowances.

He further advised that the Dorset Council Scheme of Members' Allowances had previously been reviewed in 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr N Ireland and seconded by Cllr A Parry

Decision

- (a) Basic Allowance (BA): That the basic allowance be increased to £16,000 per annum with effect from 1 April 2025
- (b) Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA's): That the following SRAs be payable as from 1 April 2025:

Leader of the Council	£38,000;
Executive / Cabinet Members (including Deputy Leader)	£23,500;
Chair of the Council	£11,000;
Vice-Chair of the Council	£5,500;
Chairs of Audit and Governance Committee, Overview committees, Scrutiny committees, and all planning committees (including strategic)	£11,000;
Chair of the Licensing and Gambling Acts Committee	£7,500;
Chairs of all other committees listed in Article 8 and the Dorset Police and Crime Panel and the Corporate Parenting Board in Article 11 of the Dorset Council Constitution	£5,500;
Minority Group Leaders (Note: Minority Parties must have a membership of not less than 10% of Dorset Council for their Leader to receive an SRA).	£5,500.

(c) **Indexation of Allowances:**

- (i) That both the BA and SRAs be updated annually to reflect the annual pay award to staff and that this indexation commence from 1 April 2026.
- (ii) That where a consolidated fixed sum pay award be made, the BA and SRAs be increased by the percentage increase applied to salary scale point 43.
- (iii) That indexation of BA and SRAs continue for the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029.

(d) **Co-opted and Independent Member Allowance:**

- (i) That no further increase be applied to the Co-opted and Independent members' allowances.
- (ii) That these allowances be updated annually, commencing on 1 April 2026, to reflect the indexation increases applied to the BA and SRAs; and
- (iii) That indexation of the Co-opted and Independent Members allowance should continue for the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029.

(e) **Dependant Carer's Allowance:** That the Scheme incorporates a Dependant Carer's Allowance and to include:

- (i) A distinction between formal specialised care and informal care
- (ii) For formal specialised care the allowance should provide for the reimbursement of the actual expenditure, subject to prior agreement with the Service Manager for Democratic and Electoral Services and the provision of appropriate invoices/receipts
- (iii) For informal care, the maximum allowance payable should be the national minimum wage and is payable subject to the carer providing a written receipt (the process to be agreed by the Service Manager for Democratic and Electoral Services and the member making the claim)
- (iv) In respect of informal care, the claimant's own household should not be excluded, subject to where a person acting as a carer already has joint caring responsibilities, payment would be subject to the prior agreement of the Service Manager for Democratic and Electoral Services.

- (v) Both elements of this allowance be payable for the care of dependants whether children, elderly people or people with disabilities while the member is on Council business where travel allowances was payable or otherwise by prior agreement with the Service Manager for Democratic and Electoral Services; and
 - (vi) any members of the Council requiring specialist care or support for themselves should agree this provision with the Service Manager for Democratic and Electoral Services and the actual cost will be reimbursed upon production of receipts.
- (f) **Travel and Subsistence:**
- (i) Paragraph 5.2(c) of the Scheme be amended to include the payment of a mileage allowance for the attendance of a councillor at any meeting of the Council to observe the proceedings
 - (ii) Apart from (i) above, there be no change to the current travel and subsistence allowances, other than updating the subsistence rates to reflect the officer rates for 2025.
- (g) Given the current procedures in place, no action be taken to introduce a Policy for Parental/Adoption/Sick/Neonatal Care Leave for councillors.
 - (h) That councillors should not be required to pay for their car parking permits to be used only when undertaking Council business.
 - (i) That councillors be not permitted to access the salary sacrifice scheme designed for staff.

14. **Motion on Notice - Declaring an Economic Emergency**

Full Council received the following Notice of Motion proposed by Cllr S Gibson, seconded by Cllr James Vitali and supported by Cllrs Monks, L Beddow, J Somper, T Coombs, M Parkes, A Parry, S Flower, P Brown, V Potheary, A Skeats, S Jespersen, R Bryan, J Haynes, B Quayle, B Goringe, S Murcer

Motion Narrative and Action Required

Dorset, like the wider United Kingdom, is experiencing difficult economic headwinds that are negatively impacting our local economy and our businesses. A combination of stubbornly low growth rates, increasing cost of employment and darkening global trading conditions are causing widespread concern. A recent report by the Institute of Chartered Accountants highlighted plummeting business confidence. The number of new businesses registrations has reduced and winding up orders increased to the highest level since the financial crash.

After the Spring Statement, the OBR halved its growth forecast for 2025 from 2.0% to 1.0%. And since inflation has regularly outpaced growth in recent years, real living standards are deteriorating, which for businesses means less consumer demand even whilst their own prices are rising. Growth rates have been historically low in recent years and once population increases are considered, GDP per capita has actually fallen. Economic growth in Dorset sits below the regional average and the national average. Dorset has a productivity deficit. Our ageing population and reducing number of younger people further exacerbates the issues facing businesses and their ability to grow.

Increases to employers National Insurance Contributions, reductions in Retail, Hospitality and leisure business rate relief, increasing energy costs and global tariffs have made life increasingly difficult for our businesses and the families that rely on them for income and employment.

A thriving economy allows businesses to grow, to hire more staff and to pay better wages. Confident businesses invest in their infrastructure and better train their employees.

Dorset Council is well placed to show leadership and support for our businesses and local economy. As we produce our next Economic Growth Strategy, we must look urgently at anything that the Council can do to improve growth, support businesses and jobs.

Motion

Dorset Council therefore commits to: Declare an ‘Economic Emergency’ that requires urgent action. Furthermore, the Council commits to:

1. A thorough and urgent review of all existing Council policies to more fully assess the impact on economic growth in Dorset and the impact on local businesses and jobs.
2. Ensuring that all future major policy has a more detailed assessment of the various economic factors included in the reports similar to the successful Climate Change ‘colour wheel.’
3. Establish a permanent Executive Advisory Panel that will meet regularly, on a cross party basis, to build upon the work of the task & finish group that has been supporting the forthcoming Economic Growth Strategy.
4. Create a strategy for Business Rates that seeks to grow the number of businesses across the Dorset Council area. With consideration given to a percentage of any increase in business rate revenue being set aside to improve our local economy, our highstreets or offer increased rate relief to struggling businesses.
5. Increase the capacity of the Economic Development team to ensure that economic factors can be considered more fully across the council and to enable more input into planning applications.
6. Work to ensure that economic growth is prioritised across Dorset, including in rural areas.

7. To speed up the work of the Market Town/ Highstreet Strategy to allow for regeneration of our town centres.
8. An annual scrutiny review of the Economic Growth Strategy and action plan.
9. Working with the business community, business representatives and locally elected representatives to lobby for better business support for Dorset and to ensure that the Government prioritises Economic Growth and support for businesses of all sizes.

In accordance with procedure rule 14.3 (a) the Notice of Motion, upon being proposed and seconded was opened for debate by Full Council.

The Cabinet Member for Property, Assets and Economic Growth proposed the following amendment, and this was seconded by Cllr S Clifford

Amendment

DELETE

Dorset Council therefore commits to: Declare an ‘Economic Emergency’ that requires urgent action. Furthermore, the Council commits to:

INSERT

Council notes that we are committed to placing Economic Development at the heart of its agenda and recognising the urgency of the challenges and opportunities ahead, is taking decisive action to unlock growth, attract investment, and create high-quality jobs.

To deliver on this ambition, Dorset Council sets out the following key commitments:

DELETE ITEMS 1-9

INSERT

1. Stimulate and Accelerate Economic Growth

We will identify and prioritise transformative projects that unlock Dorset’s economic potential, focusing on clean energy, advanced manufacturing, and regeneration of key population centres. This will be delivered through the ambitious new Economic Growth Strategy, with progress monitored by the cross-party Executive Advisory Panel to ensure alignment with the Dorset Council Plan 2024–2029.

2. Attract Strategic Investment

Dorset will be positioned as a high-value investment destination by leveraging the ‘Energising Dorset’s Economy’ prospectus and working closely with the Dorset Growth Board and the new Arm’s Length Investment Company. We will actively

promote Dorset's strengths in clean energy, defence, and innovation to secure inward investment and catalyse economic transformation.

3. Create High-Value, Future-Ready Jobs

We will support the creation of highly skilled, well-paid jobs by collaborating with Dorset's advanced engineering and manufacturing sectors. This includes ensuring training provision is aligned with industry needs and embedding STEM skills early in education. Our goal is to future-proof the workforce and raise productivity across the county.

4. Lead Strategic Negotiations

We will define and advocate for Dorset's economic priorities in negotiations with government and regional partners. This includes lobbying for devolution opportunities and leveraging our new Local Visitor Economy Partnership accreditation to demonstrate Dorset's readiness for growth. Our approach will ensure Dorset's voice is heard and its potential realised.

In response to a point of order, the Director of Legal and Democratic confirmed that the amendment before Council was valid under procedure rule 17.6. It involved the deletion of certain words, the addition of others and remained substantially within the scope of the original motion.

Therefore, it was a proper amendment, and it did not negate the motion.

At this juncture, the Chair adjourned the meeting to give all members an opportunity to read the amendment in full.

Following the adjournment, the Chair invited the proposer of the original motion to address the meeting.

With the support of his seconder, Cllr S Gibson sought to withdraw his motion as, in his view, the proposed amendment substantially changed his original motion.

The motion was withdrawn.

At this juncture Cllr A Parry indicated his intention to withdraw from the meeting, at which point the following members also took their leave; Cllrs L Bedow, P Brown, R Bryan, S Christopher, T Coombs, P Dickenson, S Flower, S Gibson, B Goringe, J Haynes, S Jespersen, C Jones, N Lacy-Clarke, C Lugg, C Monks, S Murcer, M Parkes, B Quayle, J Robinson, D Shortell and J Vitali.

15. Questions from Councillors

There were 7 questions from councillors. Questions 3 to 7 were not read out as the councillors concerned had left the meeting. However, a copy of all the questions and responses are set out in the Appendix C to these minutes.

16. Urgent items

There were no items of urgent business to report.

17. Exempt Business

There was no exempt business.

Appendix A - Public Questions

Appendix B - Deputations

Appendix C Councillor Questions

Duration of meeting: 6.30 - 8.47 pm

Chair

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Full Council

15th May 2025

Questions submitted by the public

Question 1 - submitted by Denise Montague, Chair of Blandford Hedgehog Group

Blandford Hedgehog Group together with others have been striving for several years to get the DfT small mammal (hedgehog) triangular reflective signs approved and erected at identified black spots of hedgehog fatalities in and around Blandford conurbation. We have provided details of locations with GPS and W3W references. We have met with Byron Quayle and emailed Cllr Andrews on 7 March asking to meet to discuss a mutual way forward, to date we've had no response.

In December 2023 the Secretary of State gave permission to councils for 'small wild animal' signs. Other councils have erected these signs, but we don't have details of processes or costs.

Currently DC want £300 per application from each Parish. At a meeting with Dorset Highways Technical Officer on 13 March he said no signs could be fixed to existing mph poles as it could cause confusion to drivers and wind resistance issues, signs need a BS kite mark. Sites need to be approved by DC. DC would charge, per sign, £249 on soft verge and £400 on hard standing. Maintenance would fall onto each Parish. Surely poles with a single mph sign should be robust enough to take an extra warning sign with no problems and help to enforce the reason why speed limits are in force.

In Dorset Council News, Winter 2024, page 10, DC states that they need to create, improve and connect spaces for nature to help recover habitats and protect our wildlife. Dorset Countryside Newsletter 1 March encourages World Wildlife Day and supporting Hedgehogs where are the actions!! An article in the Bridport News 11 December 2024 reported of Animal warning Signs to appear along Dorset Roads, an 'experiment' in the Lyme Regis area and DC's decision to declare a Nature Emergency. A Statement from Cllr Andrews seemed to support this. I emailed to ask where these signs were, response was 'in Talbot Road, DT7 3BA. When I asked at the meeting with the DC Highways Technical Officer, he told me that they had been put up illegally. An email to the Corporate Director for Highways and Engineering and Cllr Andrews to clarify received no response.

BHHG have quotes for signs from Dorset Signs Ltd and are willing to fund the purchase/erection of signs from BHHG. BHHG, I believe, has for some years supplied DC with other signs, they are currently waiting for approval of the BS kite mark.

Why are DC putting so many obstacles in the way after declaring that they are working towards improving the State of Nature? We still would like a meeting to discuss a way forward.

Response by Cllr Jon Andrews

I absolutely want to see fewer hedgehogs killed on our roads. We need to make sure that any signage is appropriate for the location, which is why it's not as simple as just putting up warning signs. Thank you for the invitation to meet with the Blandford Hedge Hog Group, which I'd like to take up. It would be great if that meeting could be tied in with being part of a hedgehog release.

Question 2 - submitted by Becky Brookman, Branch Secretary, UNISON Dorset Branch

Councils across the UK are facing severe financial hardship. Alongside increased demand, central government grants have been cut by 60% since 2010, Dorset Council no longer receives any revenue support grant from central government. Staff delivering the services that we all depend on, have suffered 25% real terms pay cut over the same period.

Research shows that if the Government were to fully fund the unions' 2025 pay claim, around half of the money would be recouped thanks to increased tax revenue, reduced expenditure on benefits and tax credits, and increased consumer spending in the local economy. Yet we have only been offered 3.2% meaning another real terms pay cut.

Without dedicated staff, local government will collapse. And without fair pay, councils will continue to struggle to recruit and retain staff. Across the UK, 900,000 jobs have been lost in local government since June 2010 – a reduction of more than 30%. At Dorset Council we have seen cuts upon cuts, restructure after restructure, due to the lack of central government funding from this and the previous Government. Staff will shortly be going through one of the biggest cuts to jobs since the creation of Dorset Council, with Our Future Councils proposing to cut hundreds of jobs over the next 3 years, beginning this summer. Staff have been cut to the bone; they are doing their best to plug a hole not of their making which has resulted in work related stress being at an all-time high. Any further cuts will lead to essential service cuts.

Local government has been hit by more severe job losses than any other part of the public sector. There has been a disproportionate impact on women, with women making up more than three quarters of the local government workforce. Without proper funding our vital local public services will be lost.

Will Councillors show support for UNISON's 2025 pay claim and jointly call on central government with UNISON to fully fund local councils including this year's pay claim?

Response by Cllr Ben Wilson

The Council acknowledges the funding challenges that you have highlighted, which is why we continue to lobby for fairer funding through our local MPs and at a national level.

We also recognise the importance of our workforce and value the significant contribution that they make to the delivery of high-quality services to the residents of Dorset.

The current offer of 3.2% has been put forward by the National Employers following extensive consultation with councils across England. The current offer is already above what has been budgeted and will result in a pull of around £2.5m on our contingency fund. That said, Dorset Council continues to be committed to national pay bargaining, and we will ensure that if there is any further increase this will be funded, and the increase will be passed onto our workforce in full.

We will continue to use the routes we have to press for better funding, but we do not support any specific lobbying for an increase in funding aligned with Unison's pay claim.

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Deputation to Dorset Council for the meeting of full council on Thursday 15 May

Names of the delegation: Rob Ferguson; Lisa-Jameela Musleh; Jo Macgregor; Michael Torrens.

The Issue: Dorset Pension Fund Investments in companies enabling crimes against humanity in Gaza and the West Bank, and violations of Palestinian rights.

The 15 May is the day of commemoration for the Nakba - also known as the Palestinian Catastrophe - the destruction of Palestinian society and homeland in 1948, and the ethnic cleansing of a majority of the Palestinian people.

Dorset Palestine Solidarity Campaign is today calling on the council to take steps to divest the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) fund it administers from companies enabling Israel's grave violations of Palestinian rights and end procurement contracts with these companies.

Councillors on Dorset pension fund committee are quasi-trustees of the Pension Fund. As part of the Brunel Pension Partnership pool, the Dorset Pension Fund can request that steps are taken to divest from unethical investments and from companies enabling violations of international law.

10 councils vote to divest

There are now 10 councils that have voted to divest from companies engaged in arms sales, breaches of international law and human rights violations, including those complicit in Israel's human rights violations.

North Somerset Council has passed a motion calling on Avon Pension Fund to divest from *"companies that facilitate Israel's breaches of international law... arms companies supplying Israel with weapons and military technology... companies on the UN's list of businesses involved in activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and deemed to facilitate Israel's involvement in human rights abuses."*

Bristol City Council has voted to divest from arms manufacture, and from companies on the UN's list of businesses involved in activities in the illegal-settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Islington Pension Fund has committed to begin a process to "ensure that companies on the UN's list of businesses involved in activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory" are "excluded from the Fund's investments."

Israel's Genocidal Assault on Gaza

In January 2024, the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the world court, handed down an interim ruling affirming there is plausible evidence Israel is committing genocidal acts against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip. As a State Party to the Genocide Convention, the UK has a binding obligation to employ all means reasonably available to prevent and deter further genocidal acts.

In June 2024, UN experts issued a statement demanding that both states and companies stop all arms transfers to Israel. In issuing their call, they outlined that

financial institutions, such as banks and pension funds, investing in arms companies supplying Israel must cease, writing that financial institutions “failure to prevent or mitigate their business relationships with these arms manufacturers transferring arms to Israel could move from being directly linked to human rights abuses to contributing to them, with repercussions for complicity in potential atrocity crimes.”

Israel’s genocidal assault on Palestinians in the Gaza Strip has killed at least 61,709 people, including 17,492 children. Over 14,000 are missing, presumed dead beneath the rubble. According to the UN, at least 1.9 million people – 90 per cent of the population – across the Gaza Strip have been displaced during the war, many repeatedly, and some 10 times or more.

Nowhere in Gaza is safe: vast areas of Gaza have been levelled. UN schools sheltering the displaced, and hospitals treating the wounded, have been repeatedly targeted. In March, fifteen Palestinian paramedics and rescue workers, were killed by Israeli forces “one by one” and buried in a mass grave, with their crushed vehicles.

On 17 April Israel launched an attack on al-Mawasi, a crowded tent camp designated as a “humanitarian evacuation zone”. UNICEF’s executive director Catherine Russell noted, “Images of children burning while sheltering in makeshift tents should shake us all to our core.” Gaza’s health infrastructure has been destroyed.

In June 2024, UN experts declared that “Israel’s intentional and targeted starvation campaign against the Palestinian people is a form of genocidal violence and has resulted in famine across all of Gaza.” Since 2 March, aid supplies including food, fuel, water and medicine have been blocked by Israel from entering Gaza. In April, Israeli defence minister, Israel Katz, said: “Israel’s policy is clear: no humanitarian aid will enter Gaza”. National Security Minister, Ben Gvir, went still further, declaring that “the food and aid depots should be bombed”. The medical charity Médecins Sans Frontières says Gaza is now becoming a “mass grave for Palestinians”.

Dorset Pension Fund Complicit investments: Total £173,857,887

Dorset Council Pension Fund invests over £173 million in 71 companies that are complicit in Israeli genocide, war crimes and apartheid. These include:

BAE Systems - Investment value: £5,825,410

BAE Systems is a large British arms producer. As reported by Investigate, it manufactures a range of weapons and military technology used by Israel in its militarised attacks on Palestinians. This includes “components for combat aircraft, munitions, missile launching kits, and armoured vehicles.”

Babcock International - Investment value: £2,891,233

Babcock International is a large British arms company. It works in partnership with Israeli arms companies including Elbit Systems, Rafael and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI). Between 2008 and 2021 Babcock applied to the British government for 12 arms export licenses to supply weapons, components, or military technology to Israel.

Caterpillar - Investment value: £2,516,215

US Company Caterpillar supplies the Israeli military with D9 bulldozers which are weaponised and used to demolish Palestinian homes, schools, villages and civilian infrastructure in the illegally occupied West Bank. As reported by Investigate, “armoured D9 bulldozers have been crucial for Israel’s ground invasion of the Gaza Strip, accompanying combat troops and paving their way by clearing roads and demolishing buildings.”

Cisco Systems - Investment value: £7,327,187

Cisco Systems is an US-based public company that designs and sells a broad range of digital communication technologies. In 2018, it entered into a long-term agreement with the Israeli state to establish a range of “digital hubs”. 8 of the 45 announced locations of digital hubs are in or near illegal Israeli settlements. In addition, Cisco is also a large contractor for the Israeli military.

Honeywell - Investment value: £2,009,285

Honeywell is a US-based arms company. It manufactures components for bombs, missiles and drones used by the Israeli military in its attacks on Palestinians.

Smiths Group - Investment value: £1,563,217

Smiths Group is British arms company. From 2008 to 2021 it applied to the British government for 32 arms export licenses to Israel. It has supplied a number of components to the Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II fighter jet programme. The F-35 Lightning II was first used by Israel in 2018, and has been used in Israel’s genocide in Gaza.

RTX Corporation - Investment value: £1,478,656

RTX Corporation, previously known as Raytheon, is a US-based arms company. It has supplied Israel with a range of weapons and military technology used in its militarised attacks on Palestinians. RTX Corporation supplies guided air-to-surface missiles, which have been used by Israel in its militarised attacks on Palestinians, including its genocide in Gaza.

GE Aerospace, formally General Electric - Investment value: £1,390,452

GE Aerospace, formally General Electric, is one of the world’s largest weapons manufacturers. Its engines are integrated into Israel’s fighter jets, attack helicopters, and surveillance aircraft, used in its assaults on Palestinians, including its genocide in Gaza.

General Dynamics - Investment value: £526,671

General Dynamics is an American aerospace and weapons company. It manufactures weapons used by Israel in its attacks on Palestinians, including artillery shells and metal bodies for MK-80 series bombs, which have been used extensively in Israel’s assaults on Gaza, causing massive civilian casualties and widespread destruction.

Leonardo - Investment value: £36,326

Leonardo, formally Finmeccanica, is an Italian arms company. It manufactures naval guns installed on Israel’s warships. AgustaWestland, a subsidiary of Leonardo, makes components for Apache attack helicopters used by Israel in attacks on

Palestinians. In addition, Israel's Defence Ministry has purchased seven training helicopters from Leonardo.

Elbit Systems - Investment value: £18,926

Elbit Systems is Israel's largest private arms company. Elbit Systems has played a [central role](#) in supplying weapons used in Israel's attacks on Palestinians, including its ongoing genocide in Gaza. Elbit Systems' drones, including the Hermes 450 and 900, as well as its MPR 500 bombs, have been extensively deployed in Israel's genocide in Gaza. In addition, Elbit Systems has produced controversial weapons, including weaponised white phosphorus, cluster bombs, and flechette projectiles.

Dorset Palestine Solidarity Campaign is calling on Dorset Council to:

1. Commit to divest the Local Government Pension Scheme fund administered by the council from companies complicit in Israel's genocide in Gaza and violations of international law and human rights against Palestinians. This includes arms companies supplying Israel with weapons and military technology; companies providing infrastructure for Israel's unlawful military occupation of Palestinian land; and companies conducting business activity in Israel's illegal settlements on stolen Palestinian land.
2. End procurement contracts with companies complicit in Israel's attacks. For example, terminate all banking arrangements with Barclays, which provides substantial financing to companies supplying Israel with weapons used in its attacks on Palestinians.

When our governments fail, it falls to our communities to uphold justice. Dorset should not be complicit. We call on Dorset Council to commit to divesting from companies involved in these abuses and stand on the right side of history and of justice.

Response from the Chair of the Pension Fund Committee

Thank you for taking the time to speak to the Council today on such an important and emotive subject. I am sure all members of the Council deplore the loss of life resulting from this conflict and all the many other conflicts currently happening around the world.

Dorset Council has delegated its responsibilities as a Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) administering authority to a Pension Fund Committee, in common with most other LGPS administering authorities. You raise very valid concerns that the Pension Fund Committee will need to consider in more depth at our next meeting on 24 June 2025.

The primary duty owed by the Committee to our scheme members and their employers is to ensure that their contributions to the pension fund are invested

appropriately to make returns sufficient to pay pensions when they fall due whilst minimising the need for additional contributions in the future. [Every pound of investment return is a pound less needed from contributions from scheme members and their employers.]

The Committee can, however, make decisions for non-financial reasons if we are satisfied that two conditions are met – (1) that there is no risk of significant financial detriment to the pension fund and (2) that it would have the support of the scheme beneficiaries. We also have to consider the practicalities of implementing any decisions that we make.

This matter will be considered at the next Pension Fund Committee meeting on 24 June 2025.

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DEPUTATION TO DORSET COUNCIL

For the Full Council Meeting on Thursday 15 May 2025

Deputation Leader Contact: Siobhan Lennon-Patience

Names of Deputation: Siobhan Lennon-Patience, Lily Langford, Mark Stevens, Jenny Lennon-Wood (Secretary of Dorset Trades Union Council).

The Issue:

The government's Green Paper, 'Pathways to Work: Reforming Benefits and Support to Get Britain Working' proposes cuts to benefits for people with disabilities. The impact of these cuts will increase demand on publicly funded social care, adding to pressure on Dorset Council's already-stretched resources. We urge the Council and Councillors to make representations to the government consultation on the Green Paper.

Supporting statement: (to be read by the Deputation Leader in the Full Council meeting)

The Green Paper's main impact on social care costs will be through people who currently use their Personal Independence Payment, Limited Capability for Work and Work-related Activity (LCWRA) assessment, or associated carers element to self-fund their care. They are likely to turn to Dorset Council if they lose support. Also, people who currently use their support to stay active and independent are likely to experience a faster decline in health which will increase the demand for Adult Social Care.

Alongside increased demand for publicly funded social care, people who lose protections and support connected either to PIP or LCWRA could become impacted by the Benefit Cap, face higher Council Tax Reduction, lose Carer's Allowance or Carer's element protections for caregivers, or lose protections from sanctions or protected pathways to debt enforcement.

Councils are also concerned by the impacts on clients currently receiving non-residential care, almost all of whom receive either PIP daily living or or DLA Care support. Some will continue to qualify for PIP due to the extent of their care needs but local authorities will need to take a view on how to treat people who lose disability benefits in their charging policies. Other disabled people who move into employment could have higher incomes and yet make lower client contributions as earnings are fully disregarded, while benefit income is counted as part of the care assessment.

Losing PIP will also affect housing stability. Currently, individuals with significant health conditions or disabilities that limit their ability to secure accommodation are given higher priority in homelessness assessments. Without PIP and LCWRA to demonstrate vulnerability, many claimants who become homeless may no longer be deemed a priority for housing assistance, leaving them at greater risk of prolonged homelessness.

Many of those who lose PIP and who are not claiming Universal Credit will need the additional support to stay in their homes, again lowering the savings from reforms. So much of the support available to ill people is dependent on PIP or LCWRA as a marker of vulnerability and need, meaning loss of entitlement will have far reaching consequences for entire households.

One of the most troubling consequences of these reforms is that seriously ill people who manage to live independently will become invisible within the support system. Up to now, the benefits system has always recognised and supported those too ill to work. These reforms will change this, with the unprecedented consequence of illness being unrecognised, unsupported and invisible. However, ignoring illness does not make it go away.

How will Dorset Council identify people, many with life-limiting illnesses such as cancer, Multiple Sclerosis, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and emphysema, who lose access to support? Once LCWRA ends and PIP becomes the determining factor for support, there will be no data collected on those who are ill and unable to work. This could effectively erase some of the most vulnerable people from the system entirely, whilst simultaneously making it more challenging to deliver preventative support or monitor the impact and effectiveness of these reforms.

The consultation outlined in the government's green paper, [Pathways to Work: Reforming Benefits and Support to Get Britain Working](#), closes on 30 June 2025. As it does not address the specifics of the new system it cannot fairly reflect the views of people with disabilities and their carers. Of particular concern is that it excludes Personal Independence Payments and their eligibility criteria. It also fails to consult properly on the knock-on impacts on other services, such as the NHS and local authorities.

We urge Dorset Council and councillors to:

- **respond to the consultation on the 'Pathways to Work: Reforming Benefits and Support to Get Britain Working' Green Paper**
- **publicly encourage disabled people in Dorset to use the consultation as an opportunity to express their concerns.**

Response from the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

Firstly, thank you for bringing this issue to our Full Council meeting today, and for shining a spotlight on an issue that has such a major personal impact on so many of our residents.

Dorset Council has long prided itself on having a strengths-based approach to how it works with people in need of social care support. That means we recognise the value of promoting independence and supporting people to have the greatest choice and control over their lives. Employment can be a vital part of that for many people. Through the work we are doing on day services, for example, we have said that we want future services to have an increased focus on work and skills, where that is right for people.

But that is the key question: where work is right for people who have a significant need for care and support in their lives. The Council currently arranges adult social care support for over 4,200 people, over 1,600 of whom are deemed to be “of working age”. Some will self-fund their support on top of that number. We are very aware that many in this group will be receiving benefits that are in scope for the changes in the Green Paper – alongside very many more, who the Council does not currently support. And we would acknowledge the anxiety and concern that they will be feeling as these changes are being discussed.

On the two specific asks:

I absolutely agree that the Council has a powerful voice when it comes to raising awareness of the consultation and the value of local people and groups responding. We will use that where we can – indeed, as we stand here now, I hope people hear that encouragement to respond. I know that our local voluntary and community sector are active campaigners for disability rights, so I am confident that they will be doing the same.

Drawing on some of the data that we hold, it is also important that the Council adds its own voice to the consultation, and I will ask officers to work collaboratively across Adult Social Care, Children’s Services, Economic Development and other relevant teams to co-ordinate such a response.

Dorset Council sees the value of work as part of a rich, fulfilling and rewarding life for people who live with disability and mental health challenges. But above all we also value their broader wellbeing. It is so important that changes to the welfare benefit system are well-planned and proportionate. Thank you again for bringing the lives of local people with disability and mental health conditions to the fore this evening.

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Full Council 15th May 2025

Questions submitted by Councillors

Question 1 – submitted by Cllr Matt Bell

I am extremely concerned by the widely reported increase in ketamine use across the country. There have been incidents within the Dorset Council area which have unfortunately led to hospitalisations, life-long health concerns and tragically death.

The Assistant Coroner of Dorset, Richard Middleton, has raised concerns within a Prevention of Future Deaths Report about the ‘highly addictive’ nature of ketamine and the ‘emerging epidemic’ of ketamine cystitis, otherwise known as ketamine bladder, in younger people. The Assistant Coroner also likened the extremely harmful effects of ketamine on the bladder to ‘acid attacks on the skin’. He further stated “Patients seen by urologists are abusing the drug to the extent required to damage the urinary tract to the point of requiring major reconstructive surgery. The only way patients know how to relieve their symptoms is with ongoing ketamine use. A vicious cycle develops worsening the urological condition and reinforces dependence on the drug with high rates of relapse.”

I am grateful to the Neighbourhood Policing Team who have been conducting regular patrols of identified hotspots. The team have also met with many young people involved with ketamine use, as well as their parents and carers, to educate them about the persistent and devastating effects of this highly addictive class B drug. Officers have also actioned a warrant at an address, during which a large quantity of ketamine was recovered and removed from the distribution network. I thank all the officers involved for their crucial and ongoing efforts to remove the scourge of ketamine from my community and other communities across the county.

Please can the Cabinet Member for Health provide reassurance that Dorset Council is working proactively, alongside partner organisations, to break the cycle of ketamine dependency, destroy distribution networks and to reduce the harmful effects of ketamine within our communities? Furthermore, will this Council commit to supporting the campaign to upgrade Ketamine to Class A status?

Response by Cllr Gill Taylor

Ketamine is currently classified as a class B substance. Earlier this year, the Home Office sought advice from the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) regarding a potential reclassification. The ACMD is expected to review the evidence and make their recommendation by Autumn 2025.

Substance misuse is a cross-cutting theme for the Community Safety Partnership and the Council's operational community safety teams work closely with Neighbourhood Policing Teams to understand and tackle local issues. In addition, the Council is actively addressing the growing concerns related to ketamine use in collaboration with the Combating Drugs Partnership Board:

- CLARITY, Dorset's first Lived Experience Recovery Organisation (LERO), is supporting the development of a local communications campaign to highlight the risks associated with ketamine use.
- We have issued a briefing and are hosting a webinar for frontline staff to educate them on the risks of ketamine use and ensure they are aware of harm reduction strategies.
- We are working closely with the local urology department, pain specialists, and our commissioned Drug and Alcohol treatment service, Reach, to develop an integrated care pathway for those experiencing bladder side effects from regular ketamine use.

Reach offers support to anyone struggling with substance use. They have seen an increase in adults and young people seeking help for ketamine use.

Throughout May, Reach will be running a campaign to highlight the harms associated with ketamine use. Anyone can seek support by contacting Reach directly by telephone 0800 043 4656, or by email

SW_InfoReach@waythrough.org.uk

Question 2 – submitted by Cllr Matt Bell

I have recently received two community driven requests for the installation of CCTV within Radipole Ward, specifically for locations outside The Front Skatepark and on Lodmoor Hill. I am also aware of other areas within my ward

which may benefit from improved CCTV coverage including the Weymouth Gateway development. I am sure other councillors receive similar requests for CCTV from concerned members of their communities. I thank all members of the Dorset community who actively seek to improve safety for themselves and others, and I am certain this remains a priority for this Council.

However, I was disheartened to learn that a significant previous source of funding for CCTV, namely the Safer Streets Fund, has been ended by the current national government. The installation of CCTV columns, fibre feeds and cameras is very expensive and officers have stated that a budget does not currently exist for CCTV within Dorset Council. This, I'm sure, was in part due to the previous availability of funding through the Safer Streets Fund, which enabled CCTV to be installed to deliver safety improvements for local communities where there was evidence of need.

Will the cabinet member responsible for community safety lobby the Home Office and ministers to swiftly reintroduce a source of funding to replace the Safer Streets Fund? Furthermore, what reassurances can the cabinet member provide for concerned residents wishing to see further CCTV installations in the interim period?

Response by Cllr Gill Taylor

Thank you to Councillor Bell for his question.

Dorset is fortunate to have a good network of public space CCTV at key locations, maintained and operated by the Council's Community Safety service. Over recent years, CCTV has been extended and improved by successful bids made in conjunction with the Police & Crime Commissioner, to the Safer Streets Fund. The most recent project is bringing several town council schemes into our monitoring centre, making them more effective and resilient. The Government has said that the Fund will not run this year, and it is unclear whether it will continue. I am happy to add this Council's support for continuance of the fund especially as it has also supported other valuable community safety initiatives in Dorset. I will ensure that Councillor Bell receives a copy of my approach to the Home Office.

Meanwhile, the Community Safety service has a number of temporary cameras which can be deployed in specific locations to evidence and deter ASB and

crime. Officers will review the locations mentioned and if there is sufficient evidence, the cameras can be deployed.

Question 3- submitted by Cllr Barry Goringe

I submitted a question at the full council meeting on the 5th December 2024 regarding the lack of bus services in my ward.

Dorset Council recently received monies from government as part of the BSIP programme and both Shaftesbury and Weymouth area's will be pleased that they received funding from this.

I again raise the frustration of my residents that we only have a part time bus service that runs from 10am to 2pm Monday to Saturday and this service is not good enough for my 7600 residents,

My question to the portfolio holder is what plans have you to improve and extend the bus service in St Leonards and St Ives, and can you make sure I receive an invitation to the Bus Users/ Stake Holders meetings in future to enable me to push for improvements to my local bus service.

Response by Cllr Jon Andrews

The allocation of Bus Grant funding for 2025/26 is the first step to transforming bus services and community transport across Dorset. The money we've received so far from Government is only a small part of what we require. Longer-term funding is key to us achieving our BSIP vision so that many more communities benefit from improved local bus services. Dorset is disadvantaged by the current government funding allocation formula, an issue we'll be raising through our MP's and directly with the Department for Transport.

We are continuing to work with bus operators and Community Transport providers to identify any improvements to the network that will provide long-term benefits.

Invitations will shortly be sent out for a Bus User and Stakeholder Group meeting in early July to discuss future improvement ideas which will feed into how future allocations of Bus Grant Funding should be spent. Councillors will

receive an invitation to this meeting as well as the Town and Parish Councils, and local interest groups.

Question 4 – submitted by Cllr Mike Parkes

Increasingly we are experiencing missed bin collections in the Ferndown and West Parley areas which I understand from other members across the chamber there are similar problems being experienced in many other wards across the county.

Obviously, this is of great concern to our residents, can the responsible Cabinet member please update us as to where the project to optimise bin collections across the county currently is, whether operation staff have been involved in this program process and more importantly when new more efficient routes will be implemented which will hopefully eliminate the issues we've been experiencing?

Response by Cllr Jon Andrews

The waste data team has completed an 'as is' model of all our current collection rounds across Dorset. New collection rounds will be created in phases to absorb property growth for the next five years, alongside balancing rounds to make efficiencies within the service. Operational staff are reviewing the current model and are working closely with the data team as they develop these new rounds.

Currently, the team is working in West Dorset (Bridce depot) with new rounds planned for September. Next, they will move to Crookhill depot (Weymouth and Portland) to introduce changes in February 2026.

The optimisation of all rubbish, recycling, and food waste rounds is expected by late summer 2027. The planned go-live dates for new rounds are:

- **Wareham depot (Purbeck area)** – Summer 2026
- **Poundbury and Shaftesbury depots (West and North areas)** – February/March 2027
- **Ferndown depot (East area)** – Summer 2027

Local councillors will be informed of changes before residents.

Recent collection issues in Ferndown and West Parley have been addressed, and collections are now back to normal.

Question 5 – submitted by Cllr Byron Quayle

Given the government's Valour Centres initiative as a vital opportunity to strengthen veteran support across the UK, can Dorset Council provide evidence of formal engagement with the government on this matter, and will it commit to actively advocating for the placement of a Valour Centre in Dorset—by presenting data on local veteran needs, identifying existing support gaps, collaborating with local service providers, and outlining a clear timeline for action?

Response by Cllr Mike Baker

Thank you for your question.

Dorset Council has not yet formally engaged with the government regarding the VALOUR Centres initiative, as official details were only recently published by the Ministry of Defence on 5 May 2025. However, the council, through the Dorset Armed Forces Covenant Board (DAFCB) chaired by Cllr Mike Baker, maintains active partnerships to support the Armed Forces Community, including collaboration with the Office of Veterans Affairs.

While VALOUR Centres were not specifically discussed in recent meetings with Ministry of Defence representatives, Dorset Council is ready and keen to advocate for a centre in the region once more information becomes available from the MoD. This aligns with the Dorset Armed Forces Covenant Board's 5-year plan. We are happy to keep members updated as more details emerge.

Question 6 – submitted by Cllr Byron Quayle

Can the Leader confirm whether Dorset Council's Consultation and Engagement Policy, particularly regarding ward member involvement in local issues, is formally extended to Care Dorset? If not, will the Council consider integrating such provisions into the governance framework of its wholly owned companies to ensure consistent local member engagement?

Response by Cllr N Ireland

The arrangements for consulting and engaging with ward councillors are set out in our member/officer protocol and do not apply directly to Council owned companies like Care Dorset which are separate legal entities from Dorset Council. Such companies have their own company governance, rules and procedures.

The Council also has a Consultation Policy. This does not apply automatically to council owned companies but a council owned company can choose to adopt the Council's Consultation Policy; this would be a decision for each company.

For strategic matters companies like Care Dorset engage with councillors through a Shareholder Committee. For operational matters companies engage with council officers, who should in turn engage with relevant councillors.

There are no proposals to change these arrangements, but I have asked for a reminder to be given to officers about the need for them to engage with councillors when company proposals will impact upon residents of a particular ward.

Question 7 – submitted by Cllr Ray Bryan

Can the Highways and Waste Service's Portfolio Holder please explain why the delay in bringing to this council the review "Hedge to Hedge".

This is something that I started in 2021 when I felt that Waste Services who were responsible for sweeping the roads and Highways who were responsible for maintaining the roads needed to be under the control of a single Head of Service. It has been proven that failure to keep the roads clean results in damage to the roads during wintertime. It also makes us look like a uncaring council during the summertime.

My mailbox was full of complaints about the weeds on our highways.

As part of that review, it was agreed in 2023 that we would initially take steps to attach steel brushes to the road sweeping vehicles.

This would rip out the roadside weeds and would then allow us to reduce the amount of Glyphosate that we use to kill the weeds and result in our roads been clean and tidy. In this years budget we will only weed spray once.

We are now in a dry period, but once we have some rain, we will face weeds growing at a very much increased rate.

Successive Strategic and Corporate Directors have failed to deliver a Hedge to Hedge review. Heads of service have failed to deliver these reports.

Do our residents not deserve better.

Response by Cllr Jon Andrews

Thank you Cllr. Bryan for your question and for your contributions to the Hedge to Hedge review. The review has identified three key areas for further development. These are a single Integrated Asset Management plan for all maintenance of our roads and verges, closer working with our Town and Parish councils, and replacement of the existing highway asset management ICT system. These separate workstreams will now continue in their own right and I have asked officers to prepare a concluding summary for the Hedge to Hedge review, which I expect to be able to share in the next month.

Full Council

10 July 2025

Electoral Review of Dorset Council Wards

For Decision

Cabinet Member and Portfolio:

Cllr N Ireland, Leader of the Council, Climate, Performance and Safeguarding

Local Councillor(s):

All members of Dorset Council

Executive Director:

J Mair, Director of Legal & Democratic

Report Author: Jacqui Andrews
Job Title: Service Manager, Democratic and Electoral Services
Tel: 01258 484325
Email: jacqui.andrews@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Report Status: Public

Brief Summary:

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament that undertakes electoral reviews of local authorities with the aim of delivering electoral equality for voters, establishing electoral areas for local authorities that reflect, as far as possible, community identities in that area and promoting effective and convenient government.

An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority including the total number of councillors to be elected to the council, the names, number and boundaries of wards and the number of councillors to be elected for each ward.

The report seeks a recommendation that the LGBCE be approached with a formal request for an electoral review to be carried out and, if such a request is agreed, that a cross-party task group is established to undertake preparatory work necessary for a submission to the LGBCE for consideration by Full Council.

Recommendation:

1. That a formal request is made to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England for an electoral review of Dorset Council, with changes taking effect at the next scheduled elections in 2029.

2. That a cross-party task group be established that will make recommendations to Full Council on a submission to the LGBCE with the following membership:
 - 3 Liberal Democrat councillors (Leader, and two others)
 - 2 Conservative councillors (Group Leader and one other)
 - The group leaders or deputy group leaders of the Green, Independent and Labour political groups.

Reason for Recommendation:

To ensure that electoral equality is achieved across the Dorset Council area.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Electoral reviews are carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) under the provisions of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.
- 1.2 Electoral reviews assess and adjust the electoral arrangements of local authorities, including the number of councillors, ward boundaries, and councillor-to-electors ratios. These reviews may recommend new patterns of wards so that each councillor represents approximately the same number of electors, and that the pattern of wards reflects community ties and identities and promotes effective and convenient local government.
- 1.3 Dorset Council wards were set in 2018 as part of the local government reorganisation process when the council was created. ([LGBCE New electoral arrangements for Dorset Council - October 2018](#))

2. Electoral Review

- 2.1 The main purpose of an electoral review is to ensure that, as near as possible, each councillor represents approximately the same number of electors. The table at Appendix 1 sets out the current number of electors represented by each councillor as at April 2025 showing fairly significant variances in elector totals at the current time.
- 2.2 The review will also consider:
 - The total number of councillors to be elected to the council
 - The number and boundaries of electoral areas (wards) for the purpose of the election of councillors
 - The number of councillors representing each electoral area
 - The name of any electoral area

- 2.3 Whilst Dorset Council wards are borderline for the criteria for an automatic review, 30% of its wards have an electoral imbalance of +/-10% from the average (18 wards have this level of imbalance) and group leaders believe it is an appropriate time to seek a review by the LGBCE. As part of the review, the Council may also invite a review of councillor numbers or seek single member wards (Wiltshire Council have recently changed to all single member wards).

3. Electoral Review procedure

- 3.1 The procedure for an electoral review is set out in detail in Chapter 4 of the LGBCE's [technical guidance](#). In summary the process is as follows (indicative dates have been included but are subject to change):
- Preliminary period (up to 6 months in advance of the formal start of the review) – informal dialogue between LGBCE and Dorset Council to gather information including electorate forecast and other electoral data, Commissioner-led briefings with groups in respect of council size (the number of councillors), meetings with officers, Full Council and, where appropriate, town and parish councils. At the end of this preliminary period the Council has to make a submission to the LGBCE proposing the council size for the Commission to consider. The LGBCE published [council size submission guidance](#) that sets out the criteria to be considered. (January 2026)
 - Commission makes a “minded to” decision in respect of council size. (March 2026)
 - Formal start of the review – the Commission publishes its initial conclusions on council size and issues a general invitation to submit warding proposals based on this council size. (late March to early June 2026)
 - LGBCE publishes draft recommendations based on analysis of submissions received and undertakes public consultation on the proposals. (August 2026)
 - Second public consultation if the Commission is minded to make significant changes to its draft recommendations and there is insufficient evidence of local views in relation to any proposed changes. (September – November 2026)
 - LGBCE analyses any representations and reaches conclusions on its final recommendations. (February 2027)

4. Establishment of a Task Group

- 4.1 It is suggested that Full Council establishes a cross-party task group who can undertake initial work in preparing, for Full Council's consideration, an initial council size submission to the LGBCE and then a further submission in respect of warding arrangements. Task group members will be able to

share this work informally with their groups prior to a report to Full Council to agree the Council's final submission.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The council uses Xpress software to manage both electoral registration and elections. Xpress Maps, an “add-on” to the existing software, is a paperless mapping tool that would enable the council to easily review boundaries online, create new scenarios for consultation and balance electoral totals of wards facilitating the preparation of a submission to the LGBCE. The council does not currently have the capacity to carry out this work manually and it would be necessary to secure external resource to undertake this work. However, by using the Xpress Maps system, the electoral services team would be able to carry out this work. The software would be required for a 2-year period to cover the period of the review and associated follow up work. The cost of this would be £13,700. The electoral services team do have some unallocated grant funding that could be used for this purpose.

6. Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Implications

- 6.1 There are no natural environment, climate or ecology implications associated with this report.

7. Well-being and Health Implications

- 7.1 There are no well-being and health implications associated with this report.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1 There are no other implications associated with this report.

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 intention of requesting an electoral review is to ensure that, in so far as is possible, electoral equality is achieved. The review will be carried out by the LGBCE who will be responsible for conducting an appropriate equalities impact assessment.

11. Appendices

- 11.1 Attached at Appendix 1 is the district ward elector totals as at 15 April 2025. When submitting electorate data to the LGBCE, it will be necessary to add 5-year forecasts into these figures.

12. Background Papers

[Local Government Boundary Commission for England Technical Guidance June 2023](#)

[Local Government Boundary Commission for England Council Size Submission Guidance](#)

13. Report Sign Off

- 13.1 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)

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District Ward	Total for Ward	No. Cllrs	Average per Cllr	Compared to overall Average	+/- %	+/-5%	+/- 5-10%	+/- 10-15%	+/- 15%+
Beacon Ward	3812	1	3812	105%	5%				
Beaminster Ward	3448	1	3448	95%	-5%				
Blackmore Vale Ward	3635	1	3635	100%	0%				
Blandford Ward	7867	2	3934	109%	9%				
Bridport Ward	11896	3	3965	109%	9%				
Chalk Valleys Ward	3845	1	3845	106%	6%				
Charminster St Mary`s Ward	4088	1	4088	113%	13%				
Chesil Bank Ward	3310	1	3310	92%	-8%				
Chickerell Ward	6457	2	3229	89%	-11%				
Colehill and Wimborne Minster East Ward	7304	2	3652	101%	1%				
Corfe Mullen Ward	8074	2	4037	111%	11%				
Cranborne and Alderholt Ward	3949	1	3949	109%	9%				
Cranborne Chase Ward	3133	1	3133	87%	-13%				
Crossways Ward	3009	1	3009	83%	-17%				
Dorchester East Ward	6645	2	3323	92%	-8%				
Dorchester Poundbury Ward	3574	1	3574	99%	-1%				
Dorchester West Ward	6647	2	3324	92%	-8%				
Eggardon Ward	4102	1	4102	113%	13%				
Ferndown North Ward	7315	2	3658	101%	1%				
Ferndown South Ward	6721	2	3361	93%	-7%				
Gillingham Ward	12182	3	4061	112%	12%				
Hill Fords and Upper Tarrant Ward	3547	1	3547	98%	-2%				
Littlemoor and Preston Ward	7553	2	3777	104%	4%				
Lyme and Charmouth Ward	3981	1	3981	110%	10%				
Lytchett Matravers and Upton Ward	9637	3	3212	89%	-11%				
Marshwood Vale Ward	3859	1	3859	107%	7%				
Melcombe Regis Ward	3224	1	3224	89%	-11%				
Portland Ward	9327	3	3109	86%	-14%				
Puddletown and Lower Winterborne Ward	4309	1	4309	119%	19%				
Radipole Ward	7157	2	3579	99%	-1%				
Rodwell and Wyke Ward	10630	3	3543	98%	-2%				
Shaftesbury Town Ward	6890	2	3445	95%	-5%				
Sherborne East Ward	3708	1	3708	102%	2%				
Sherborne Rural Ward	3992	1	3992	110%	10%				

Sherborne West Ward	3732	1	3732
South East Purbeck Ward	3508	1	3508
St Leonards and St Ives Ward	6512	2	3256
Stalbridge and Marnhull Ward	4442	1	4442
Stour and Allen Vale Ward	3819	1	3819
Sturminster Newton Ward	3534	1	3534
Swanage Ward	7802	2	3901
Upwey and Broadwey Ward	3772	1	3772
Verwood Ward	10843	3	3614
Wareham Ward	7768	2	3884
West Moors and Three Legged Cross Ward	7329	2	3665
West Parley Ward	2998	1	2998
West Purbeck Ward	7041	2	3521
Westham Ward	6772	2	3386
Wimborne Minster Ward	6442	2	3221
Winterborne and Broadmayne Ward	3496	1	3496
Winterborne North Ward	3938	1	3938
Yetminster Ward	4051	1	4051
	52	296626	82
		3617	

103%	3%				
97%	-3%				
90%	-10%				
122%	22%				
106%	6%				
98%	-2%				
108%	8%				
104%	4%				
100%	0%				
107%	7%				
101%	1%				
83%	-17%				
97%	-3%				
94%	-6%				
89%	-11%				
97%	-3%				
109%	9%				
112%	12%				
Wards	21	16	11	4	
	40.38%	30.77%	21.15%	7.69%	
No Cllrs	32	26	20	4	
	39%	32%	24%	5%	

- more than 30% of a council's wards/divisions having an electoral imbalance of more than 10% from the average ratio for that authority; and/or
- one or more wards/divisions with an electoral imbalance of more than 30%; and
- the imbalance is unlikely to be corrected by foreseeable changes to the electorate within a reasonable period

Full Council

10 July 2025

An update to the Scheme of Delegation For Decision

Cabinet Member:

Cllr N Ireland, Leader of the Council, Climate, Performance and Safeguarding

Local Councillor(s): All

Executive Director:

S Crowe, Interim Chief Executive

Report author and job title: Sean Cremer Corporate Director Finance and Commercial

Email: sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Statutory Authority: Local Government Act 1972, Local Government Act 2000

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

1. Executive Summary

1.1. Earlier this year, Jonathan Mair, Director of Legal and Democratic and the Councils Monitoring officer instructed South West Audit Partnership (SWAP) to conduct an audit of the Council's controls and compliance with the Council's Constitution and Scheme of Delegation in relation to the award of contracts and general expenditure.

1.2. The SWAP Audit report "[Contract Expenditure Compliance with Council Constitution and Scheme of Delegation](#)" was reported to the Audit and Governance Committee on 2 June 2025.

1.3. The Council's Constitution sets out how decisions should be made and the procedures that are to be followed to ensure these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. Amongst other matters the SWAP audit identified that authorisation levels in the Council's SAP finance system do not align with those approved by members in the Council's Constitution.

1.4. As a priority 1 action SWAP identified the need for a review of the authorisation levels in the SAP finance system and the scheme of delegation and for recommended changes to be reported to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and then Full Council for approval.

- 1.5. The purpose of this report is to seek approval of a revised scheme of delegation as set out in appendix 1 which sets out a new *Appendix 2 Financial Rules, to the Officer Scheme of Delegation*. The recommended revisions are supported by SLT but will require system changes to be implemented and cultural change.
- 1.6. A member working group has been established by the Audit and Governance Committee so that members have direct assurance that the changes recommended in this report and the internal auditor's other recommendations are being acted upon.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1. That Council approve the recommended changes to the Scheme of Delegation as set out in Appendix 1.

3. Reason for the recommendation(s)

- 3.1. The revised scheme of delegation updates the scheme of delegation to ensure it remains fit for purpose, ensures that the finance system and scheme of delegation are aligned and that the requirements relating to financial decision making are more easily understood.

4. Legal considerations

- 4.1. The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000, as amended divides the Council's legal powers and duties into Council functions and Executive functions.
- 4.2. The purpose of this document is to create a scheme of delegation for Council and Executive powers to senior officers.
- 4.3. Pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government Act 2000, the Council or the Leader, as appropriate, delegates to each officer (defined below) full powers to act in all matters within their area of responsibility and as further described in this Scheme of Delegation.

5. Financial implications

- 5.1. There are no specific financial implications from this report. Effective governance is integral to supporting the achievement of value for money.

6. Natural environment, climate & ecology implications

6.1. There are no specific financial implications from this report.

7. Well-being and health implications

7.1. There are no specific financial implications from this report.

8. Equalities

8.1. There are no specific financial implications from this report.

9. Appendices

9.1. Appendix 1 – Proposed *appendix 2 Financial Rules, Officer Scheme of Delegation*.

10. Background papers

10.1. [Audit & Governance – 2 June 2025](#)

11. Report sign-off

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)

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Appendix 1

Proposed Appendix 2 Financial Rules, Officer Scheme of Delegation

Glossary

Authorised Signatory means Jonathan Mair and other key authorised officers with this title

Chief Officer means Chief Executive, Executive Directors, Director of Legal and Democratic and Corporate Directors

CPR means Contract Procedure Rules

FR means the Financial Regulations

Total Financial Impact means the maximum possible financial value attributable to the arrangement including the annual cost for every year of the contract including extensions, any potential cost uplifts and additional services that may be added to the arrangement.

Arrangements having a financial impact

The Financial Powers set out below can only be exercised by the Officer identified. Unless where indicated, these Financial Powers cannot be further delegated or nominated to other Officers.

All authorisations and approvals below must be obtained and recorded in writing before the action being authorised or approved is taken.

All figures below are exclusive of VAT.

Total financial impact (expenditure or saving)	Authorisation of budget or financial commitment for a proposal or actions See also FR for detail on assigning budget	Approve and sign Project Initiation Document (PiD)	Approve and sign Procurement Tender Evaluation Models (TEM)	Authorise award (Recommendation to award - RTA) of purchase/contract	Signing legally binding documents to give effect to the proposal or actions	Sealing legally binding documents to give effect to the proposal or actions If required, this would take place instead of the signing described in Column 6	Approval of extensions and modifications included within the agreement terms	Approval of extensions and modifications not contained within the agreement terms	Approving exemptions to the Contract Procedure Rules	Termination (for any reason other than expiry)
Not exceeding £24,999	Officer reporting directly to Service Manager	PiD not required, authorising officer may choose to use PiD light in accordance with the CPRs and guidance	TEM not required	Officer reporting directly to Service Manager level	Service Manager	Only required if the document is a deed Authorised Signatory only	Officer reporting directly to Service Manager providing the total value does not exceed the Column 1 value. If Column 1 value exceeded then Service Manager	Officer reporting directly to Service Manager once exemption in Column 10 approved	Chief Officer	Service Manager
Not exceeding £99,999	Service Manager	PiD not required, authorising officer may choose to use PiD light in accordance with the CPRs and guidance	TEM not required	Officer at Service Manager level	Head of Service	Only required if the document is a deed Authorised Signatory only	Service Manager providing the total value does not exceed the Column 1 value. If Column 1	Service Manager once exemption in Column 10 approved	Chief Officer	Head of Service

							value exceeded then Head of Service must approve			
Not exceeding £249,999 [Note this bracket may include proposals both above and below the statutory procurement thresholds see CPRs and guidance for more information]	Head of Service	Head of Service, Commercial and Procurement and Financial Services as set out in the PID	Head of Service, Commercial and Procurement and Financial Services as set out in the TEM	Head of Service	Chief Officer	Only required if the document is a deed Authorised Signatory only	Head of Service providing the total value does not exceed the Column 1 value. If Column 1 value exceeded then Chief Officer must approve	Chief Officer If above the relevant procurement threshold then Chief Officer in accordance with legal advice.	Monitoring Officer and Section 151 officer (up to relevant procurement threshold)	Head of Service in accordance with legal advice.
Not exceeding £499,999	Chief Officer	The same officer who gave the approval in Column 2 plus Commercial and Procurement and Financial Services as set out in the PID	The same officer who gave the approval in Column 2 plus Commercial and Procurement and Financial Services as set out in the TEM	The same officer who gave the approval in Column 2	Authorised Signatory	Only required if the document is a deed Authorised Signatory only	Chief Officer providing the total value does not exceed the Column 1 value. If Column 1 value exceeded then Cabinet must approve	Chief Officer in accordance with legal advice.	Not available.	Chief Officer in accordance with legal advice.
£500,000 and above	Cabinet	Officer and/or Member as set out in the Cabinet approval plus Commercial and Procurement and Financial Services as set out in the PID	Officer and/or Member as set out in the Cabinet approval plus Commercial and Procurement and Financial Services as set out in the TEM	Officer and/or Member as set out in the Cabinet approval	Must be executed under seal	Authorised Signatory	Officer and/or Member as set out in the Cabinet approval	Monitoring officer	Not available	Monitoring Officer
Urgent spend £500,000 and above	Chief Executive and S151 Officer	N/a	N/a	N/a	Must be executed under seal	Authorised Signatory	Chief Executive and S151 Officer	Chief Executive and S151 Officer in accordance with legal advice.	Not available	Monitoring Officer

Processing of Invoices

The following general thresholds shall apply to approval and payment of invoices. Please also refer to the Financial Regulations for arrangements in specific circumstances.

Total cost	Goods Receipting	Payment of invoice
Single invoice not exceeding £24,999	Central purchasing hub has automatic authority to receipt	Accounts payable has automatic authority to pay
Single invoice not exceeding £99,999	Service Manager	Accounts payable once goods receipting approval received
Not exceeding £249,999	Head of Service	Accounts payable once goods receipting approval received
Single invoice not exceeding £499,999	Chief Officer	Accounts payable once goods receipting approval received
Single invoice £500,000 and above	S151 Officer OR individual authorised to receipt in the appropriate Cabinet report	Accounts payable once goods receipting approval received

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FULL COUNCIL

MOTION ON NOTICE

Date of Council Meeting: - 10 July 2025

Title of Motion: - Recycling Booking System challenge

Proposer: - Cllr G Suttle

Seconder: - Cllr L O'Leary

Supported by: - Cllr L Beddow, Cllr N Lacey-Clarke, Cllr J Somper, Cllr E Parker, Cllr B Quayle, Cllr C Lugg, Cllr S Jespersen, Cllr V Potheary, Cllr C Jones, Cllr A Parry, Cllr C Monks, Cllr P Dickenson, Cllr S Murcer, Cllr M Parkes, Cllr J Robinson

Motion Narrative and Action Required

"We call on this council to scrap its proposed blanket tip appointment system and instead look at the situation centre by centre in consultation with ward members and the general public".

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