

Date of committee: 23 June 2026

Date published: 24 June 2026

Date of implementation: 2 July 2026

**DECISIONS OF THE CABINET
23 JUNE 2026**

The following decisions were made by the Cabinet on 23 June 2026 and will come into force and may be implemented on 2 July 20026 unless the decision is called in for scrutiny.

In accordance with the council's constitution, any six members of the same relevant Scrutiny Committee may request the Monitoring Officer to 'call-in' a decision for scrutiny. The Monitoring Officer will be provided with written notice that will identify the decision to be called-in and the ground for the call-in when the request is made. If satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for the proposed call-in, the Monitoring Officer will notify the decision-maker of the call-in within 5 clear working days. The deadline for this request is **1 July 2026**

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

6 DRAFT OUTTURN REPORT 2025/26

- (a) That the draft revenue and capital outturn and the financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2026, be noted.
- (b) That the movement of the £0.169m surplus at the year end to general reserves be approved.

Reason for the decision

Although the report was primarily for noting the outturn position, Cabinet's approval was required for the transfer of the £0.169m surplus to general reserves.

While the report did not seek Cabinet approval of the outturn, the financial position at 31 March 2026 was critical in informing the next Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) update and the development of the 2027/28 and 2028/29 budget strategy, in line with the multi-year settlement announced in 2025/26.

In addition to reporting outturn, with the financial performance for the year materially complete, it was important for Cabinet to review the risks the organisation now faces and to consider areas where it wishes to make strategic investments and/or to repurpose and prioritise its reserves to facilitate these aims.

8 SEND INCLUSION HUBS PHASE 2

- (a) That the capital budget of £4.3 million and funding allocations to projects set out in the Business Case within Appendix A of the Cabinet report dated 23 June 2026 be approved.
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director, Economy and Environment in consultation with the Executive Director, Children's Services, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Growth and Strategic Assets and Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education and, together with the Director Resources to procure and award contracts or release agreed funding to third parties delivering projects, for any Phase 2 Inclusion Hub as set out in the Business Case at Appendix A of this Cabinet report, provided the project costs are contained within the programme budget.
- (c) That the High Needs Block revenue allocation of £2m per year recurrent, as set out in the Business Case within Appendix A of this Cabinet report dated 23 June 2026 be approved. This has been factored into Dorset's High Needs Block SEND reform modelling. Inclusion Hub places are approximately £19.5k per annum compared with an independent placement in the region of £64k per annum.
- (d) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director, Children's Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education and the Director, Resources to release high needs revenue funding to third parties operating any Phase 2 Inclusion Hub as set out in the Business Case at Appendix A of this Cabinet report, provided the funds are within the high needs revenue allocation.

Reason for the decision

1. To ensure that the projects can move forward at pace, to provide cost savings and improve the sufficiency of SEND placements and support.
2. To ensure appropriate oversight and authority is in place to allow projects to progress through from inception to delivery.
3. To evidence delivery against the SEND Local Reform Plan.

9 DORSET HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY

That the proposed approach to managing the transition from the current Dorset Council Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy to the next statutory strategy, be approved, and that authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Housing and the Executive Director of Housing, Communities and Prevention, to approve the updated interim Action Plan for publication in Autumn 2026.

Reason for decision

Developing our new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy would provide excellent opportunities to further build upon and expand our Prevention and Communities agenda as part of the newly formed Housing, Communities and Prevention Directorate.

10 ASPIRE ADOPTION ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

That the activity and performance of Aspire Regional Adoption Agency in 2025/26, as set out in the annual report, be noted.

Reasons for decision

Cabinet was satisfied that adoption statutory duties that the agency discharges on behalf of Dorset Council and the Aspire Annual Report 25/26 satisfies that these activities were discharged to a high standard in the last year.

11 PROCUREMENT OF A REPLACEMENT SYSTEM FOR PARKING ENFORCEMENT AND PERMITS

- (a) That the procurement of this contract, with an anticipated maximum value of £700,000 and a maximum six-year contract duration, be approved.
- (b) That the procurement of a new contract via the Crown Commercial Service Transport Technology Framework RM6347, Lot 3 (Parking Management), be approved.
- (c) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, the Monitoring Officer, and the Cabinet Member for Place Services, to approve the final contract terms, award the proposed contract, and approve contract modifications throughout the term where these are compliant with legal advice.

Reason for the decision

To enable the continuity of an essential service via a compliant contract.

To improve efficiency, data integration and customer experience.

To comply with Key Decision governance when the £500k limit is exceeded.

13 DORSET NATIONAL LANDSCAPE DEFRA FUNDING

- (a) That Cabinet accepts (in principle) the funding offered by Defra as the accountable body for the Dorset National Landscape Partnership, subject to the contract/s being found acceptable by officers representing legal and financial interests.
- (b) That Cabinet delegates the signing of contracts according to the Constitution's Scheme of Delegation

Reason for the decision

Funding offered supports the discharge of statutory duties and enables positive delivery in alignment with Council Plan priorities.

14 DORSET COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS FOR ONSHORE WIND TURBINES IN ENGLAND

That the response submitted (as set out in Appendix A of the report) to the recent Government consultation on the proposed introduction of a new permitted development right for small-scale, non-domestic wind turbines, be endorsed.

Reason for decision

The proposed new permitted development right would streamline the planning process for small-scale non-domestic wind turbines which met certain criteria.

The consultation response set out in Appendix A supported the principle of the new proposed permitted development right whilst also highlighting the importance of a full assessment of impacts through a planning application for larger scale schemes.