

Date of committee: 6 April 2021

Date published: 7 April 2021

Date of implementation: 15 April 2021

**DECISIONS OF THE DORSET COUNCIL - CABINET
6 APRIL 2021**

The following decisions were made by the Cabinet on 6 April 2021 and will come into force and may be implemented on 15 April 2021 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 **14 April 2021**.

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 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22

Decision

- (a) That the capital programme proposed by the Capital Strategy and Asset Management Group (CSAM) for the period 2021/22 to 2025/26 and beyond be noted and those projects scheduled to commence in 2021/22 be progressed;
- (b) That the impact on future capital budgets of the two approved projects, where there would be contractual commitments beyond 2021/22 be noted:
- (c) That any further release of funds be paused at this stage, given the commitment to the St Mary's school site.
- (d) That a further review be carried out as part of the 2020/21 capital closedown process.

Reason for decision

The budget process and timetable for 2021/22 was very tight and although a programme total was agreed, individual projects were not sufficiently developed and more time was needed to bring these investments forward.

7 PUBLIC SECTOR DECARBONISATION

Decision

- (a) Cabinet agreed to begin procurement exercises that were required in relation to the £18.7m Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) grant; that comprises of individual procurement activity over the key decision threshold of £500k.
- (b) That following procurement, the further step of making any contract award be delegated to the Executive Director for Place in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders.

Reason for the decision

Cabinet was required to approve all key decisions with financial consequences of £500k or more.

8 TRANSFER OF PINEMOOR ALLOTMENTS AND OPEN GREEN SPACE TO WEYMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

- (i) That the appropriation of the land known as Pinemoor Allotments and Open Green Space from being held by Dorset Council under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to being held under the Local Government Act 1972, be approved and
- (ii) That the disposal/transfer of the land at a disposal price of one pound (which is less than best consideration) to Weymouth Town Council on terms to be agreed by the Executive Director of Place, be approved.

Reason for the decision

To promote and assist in the delivery of the proposed allotments in accordance with the provisions of the Section 106 Agreement dated 22nd May 2006, varied by a Deed dated 8th March 2012. Where there is a Town Council for an area, the responsibility for allotments lies with them.

9 EXTENSION OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB) RELATED PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS (PSPO'S)

Decision

That the extension of the West Dorset and Weymouth & Portland Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) related Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO's) to 22 April 2022 and 19 August 2022 respectively, be approved.

Reason for the decision

- (i) To comply with legislative requirements
- (ii) To ensure openness and transparency in the Council's decision making and to ensure that those persons affected by ASB continue to be afforded the protection provided by the Orders.

10 DORSET COUNCIL'S DIGITAL VISION

Decision

That, subject to any final changes, the Dorset Council's Digital Vision and action plan be adopted.

Reasons for the decision

The Place and Resources committee met in December 2020 and February 2021 to finalise the digital vision and recommend areas of focus. The later have been pulled together and are reflected in the accompanying delivery plan. Subject to any typographical or minor changes, these documents have been recommended by that committee to Cabinet for adoption.

11 BARBEQUES AND OTHER RELATED FIRE ACTIVITIES OPTIONS PAPER

Decision

- (a) That a two-step approach be adopted to the control of disposable barbeques and other fire related activities firstly focussing on increasing public awareness about the risks and the wider impacts through campaigns, policies and schemes, then if necessary, introducing legislation which will result in penalties for those in contravention.
- (b) To achieve this the following options were approved:

- (1) Not to pursue designating areas or Dorset Council areas with a PSPO relating to BBQ's and fire related activities this year but evaluate 2022 (Option 1)
- (2) Not to pursue having a specific byelaw at this current time (Option 2)
- (3) The Sky Lantern and Balloon Policy and the new BBQ and campfire/Wildfire Policy be adopted by Dorset Council (Option 3)
- (4) Moors Valley to investigate the gas/electric communal style BBQ option with Forestry England later (Option 4)
- (5) Officers be asked to investigate partnership funding options to support having a new Firewise voluntary warden scheme delivered through the Dorset Firewise project (Option 5)
- (6) The campaign and communication work be supported and developed and taken forward for 2021 season in line with any recommendations from the report to Cabinet of 6 April 2021. (Option 6)
- (7) Dorset Council initiate a coordinated approach to the banning of disposable BBQs in agreed high risk area's locations. This work should link with Option 3, 5 and 6 (Option 7).

Reason for Recommendation:

This two-step approach considered the cost, the length of time it takes to introduce new legislation and difficulties in enforcement as well as the effectiveness of various control methods. The recommended approach aims to balance the various options presented to Cabinet.

12 DORSET COUNCIL CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY STRATEGY

Decision

That the report be deferred until the next meeting of Cabinet on 18 May 2021.

Reason for the decision

To consider the comments and issues raised by the Place and Resources Scrutiny Committee of 25 March 2021 and the (withdrawn) question received from Cllr B Heatley.

13 DORCHESTER OFFICE STRATEGY

Decision

- (a) That the principle of consolidating the Council's office requirements on the County Hall/Colliton Park site as a 'public service civic hub' subject to the Council ensuring it takes due regard to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, be agreed;

- (b) That the principle of utilizing any surplus space within the County Hall/Colliton Park site for use by third sector and other public sector bodies be agreed and to review the possibility to repurpose and refurbish any such assets currently leased to and in use by them for residential purpose or for disposal;
- (c) Agree to retain the Library facility in South Walks House with a Customer Access Point;
- (d) That Cabinet reaffirms the principle that we are a member led authority and that local Members should always be consulted on issues affecting their Wards;
- (e) That planning permission be sought to repurpose South Walks House and South Annexe for residential use through a process of refurbishing or redeveloping the existing buildings whilst retaining the Library facility in South Walks House and a Customer Access point;
- (f) Agree to the Council, whilst planning consent is being sought for the repurposing of South Walks House and South Annexe for residential use, to continue to explore and investigate alternative uses so as to ensure that the Council achieves best commercial (including hotel use), social and economic value prior to bringing forward the final recommendation to Cabinet for approval as to future use.

Reason for the decision

The effective use of the asset base will help enable the Council to meet its social and financial challenges through asset disposals, generation of capital receipts, savings in costs through the reduction, rationalisation and improved efficiency of the estate and more importantly the generation of value through income generation and the repurposing, redirecting and reuse of land and buildings for housing, schools and other essential service needs.

18 EXEMPT BUSINESS

There were two items of exempt business consider by the committee under paragraph 3 of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

19 LEISURE SERVICES FUTURE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Decision

That a public consultation be undertaken to consider the implications of an alternative operating arrangement for the management agreement of Leisure Services and a report be brought back to Cabinet in the summer for consideration.

Reason for the decision

To consider Leisure Services future management arrangements and ensure this provides value for money.

20 LETTING OF THE SHERBORNE HOTEL, WEYMOUTH

Decision

That Cabinet authorise the letting of The Sherborne Hotel, 116 The Esplanade, Weymouth on term to be agreed by the Executive Director of Place.

Reason for the decision

To bring the hotel back into service and enable the provision of good quality hotel and guest house provision in Weymouth. To help support and assist the local economy.