

Date of committee: 1 March 2022

Date published: 2 March 2022

Date of implementation: 10 March 2022

**DECISIONS OF THE CABINET
1 MARCH 2022**

The following decisions were made by the Cabinet on 1 March 2022 and will come into force and may be implemented on 10 March 2022 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 **9 March 2022**.

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 PURBECK GATEWAY

Decision

- (a) That the revised scope of the Purbeck Gateway Project be approved, with specific reference to taking the Middle School site in Wareham forward to procure the development of Housing.
- (b) Third-party public procurement be approved, as the preferred Delivery mechanism, and that the project team commence design of procurement approach in consultation with Legal Advisors and Procurement officers. The final approval of the procurement model be delegated to and authorised by the Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial.
- (c) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for People (Adults) and the Executive Director for Corporate Development to make the decisions regarding the selection of potential preferred bidders and the final award of the Contract to the preferred bidder, in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Safety, and the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care & Health.
- (d) That the terms of the final land deal with Developers be agreed; and be subject to the advice of the Council's solicitor and external legal advisers and shall be approved by the Executive Director for Place, and the Executive Director for Corporate Development.

Reason for the decision

The scope of the project has changed since the original Cabinet approval in 2019. This has taken account of changes in the need for housing with support and care in this area, and strengthened the emphasis on providing extra-care housing. It has been important to refresh the Business Case, be certain that what had been proposed was still relevant to local need, and make changes where necessary. The continuing need for these parts of the project have been evidenced and are considered to be financially and commercially viable

7 SCHOOL ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS AND COORDINATED SCHEME 2023-2024

Decision

That the following policies that make up Dorset Council's School Admissions Arrangements and Coordinated Scheme for school place allocations from September 2023 be adopted:

1. Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme Timetable 2023-2024
2. Primary Co-ordinated Scheme 2023-2024
3. Secondary Co-ordinated Scheme 2023-2024
4. In Year Co-ordinated Scheme 2023-2024
5. Admissions Arrangements for Community & Voluntary Controlled Schools 2023-2024.
6. Admissions to Maintained Nursery Units Policy 2023-2024

7. Sixth Form Admissions Policy 2023-2024
8. Guidance on Placement Outside of Normal/Chronological Age Group 2023-2024
9. Armed Forces Policy 2023-2024.

Reason for the decision

To determine admissions arrangements in accordance with statutory requirements including the Schools Admissions Code September 2021.

To ensure compliance with the latest legislation and any subsequent regulation/statutory guidance

8 CHARMOUTH PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2021-2035

Decision

- (a) That the Council makes the Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan 2021 - 2035 (as set out in Appendix A to the report) part of the statutory development plan for the Charmouth Neighbourhood Area.
- (b) That the Council offers its congratulations to the Parish Council and members of the Neighbourhood Plan Group in producing a successful neighbourhood plan.

Reason for the decision

To formally make the Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan 2021 - 2035 part of the statutory development plan for the Charmouth Neighbourhood Area. In addition, to recognise the significant amount of work undertaken by the Parish Council and members of the Neighbourhood Plan Group in preparing the plan and to congratulate the Council and Group on their success.

9 PROPOSED BLUE BADGE CAR PARK CHARGING POLICY

Decision

That the new pan-Dorset Blue Badge Car Park Charging Policy be approved.

Reason for the decision

To align the former council policies to one to bring consistency and fairness to Blue Badge holders who park in Dorset Council car parks.

10 BUS SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN - DORSET'S ENHANCED PARTNERSHIP PLAN AND SCHEME

Decision

- (a) That the Dorset Enhanced Partnership be approved; and that the Plan and Scheme be 'made' to commence the Enhanced Partnership on the 1st April 2022.

- (b) That authority be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Travel and Environment to approve the decisions of the Enhanced Partnership Board.

Reason for the decision

In order to deliver the Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan a formal agreement must be in place between the Council and with all local bus service operators. Through engagement with local bus operators, the council has prepared a draft Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme to deliver the BSIP in accordance with requirements set out by the Department for Transport and in line with the Transport Act 2000 and any subsequent amendments.

11 REVIEW OF THE HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

Decision

That the Highways Asset Management Policy and Strategy be approved.
This is a summary document of the revised Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP).

Reason for the decision

The Highways Asset Management Policy and Strategy document sets out how we have aligned our approach to support Dorset Council priorities and how the authority will manage its highway assets. The Department for Transport criteria states that we must have a current asset management policy, and strategic document, reviewed in the last two years, which must be signed off by senior decision makers, or we lose up to £2million of DfT incentivised funding.

12 EXTENSION OF ASB - RELATED PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS (PSPO'S)

Decision

That the extension of the West Dorset ASB-Related Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to 19 August 2022, be approved.

Reason for the decision

To comply with legislative requirements.

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.

13 LEISURE SERVICES REVIEW

Decision

Cabinet approved

- (a) That a leisure strategy be developed to enable Dorset Council to consider and adopt a more strategic and informed approach to the way it operates its leisure facilities and service.
- (b) That the strategy be reviewed by the People and Health Overview Committee in the Autumn and then be brought to Cabinet for consideration and adoption.
- (c) That officers be instructed to agree contract extensions for Ferndown Leisure Centre, Blandford Leisure Centre, and Dorchester Sports Centre until 31.03.2024 on the existing contractual terms.

A leisure strategy will set out how the council aims to deliver its leisure service in the future and identify ways to improve community health through physical activity. The strategy will help shape how leisure facilities can be accessible, affordable, and sustainable in the future.

The Ferndown Leisure Centre and Blandford Leisure Centre contracts expire on 31.3.22, with the Dorchester Sports Centre expiring on 21.10.22. An extension to 31.3.24 would align all the existing leisure contracts and would allow time for the council to develop a leisure strategy which sets out the future delivery of its leisure sites and provision.

14 PROCUREMENT FORWARD PLAN REPORT - OVER £500K (2022-23)

Decision

- (a) That Cabinet agrees to begin each of the procurement processes listed in Appendix 1 to the report.
- (b) That in each instance the further step of making any contract award be delegated to the relevant Cabinet portfolio holder, after consultation with the relevant Executive Director.

Reason for the decision

Cabinet is required to approve all key decisions with financial consequences of £500k or more. It is also good governance to provide Cabinet with a summary of all proposed procurements prior to them formally commencing.

Planning procurements effectively ensures:
effective stakeholder management
efficient commissioning and sourcing
compliance with regulations and contract procedure rules
best value for money is clearly defined

15 QE LEISURE CENTRE FUTURE MANAGEMENT

Decision

- (a) That the Executive Director of Place be instructed to write to Queen Elizabeth School Foundation Trustees to give formal notice to withdraw from the dual use management agreement on the 31.3.24.

- (b) That officers continue to engage with the school during this transitional period and work with them to approach the Education and Skills Funding Agency to apply for exceptional circumstances funding in recognition of the change in contractual arrangements.
- (c) That officers work alongside Queen Elizabeth School in identifying ways to maximise the availability of leisure facilities for school and community use and provide advice to any displaced users who may need assistance in identifying opportunities to maintain their activity levels.
- (d) That a bid for one off capital funding (up to a max of £150,000) be included in Dorset Councils 2023/24 capital budget process. If successful, this funding would be Dorset Council's contribution towards the replacement of the All-Weather Pitch.

Reasons for the decision

The existing dual use agreement permits the Council to give Queen Elizabeth School Foundation Trustees a 2-year notice to withdraw from managing the leisure centre.

There is a good level of alternative provision within the locality with seven public leisure facilities within a 20 min drive time of Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre (QELC), three of which are owned by Dorset Council. Similarly, there are several large private and budget leisure clubs within a 10-mile radius.

A decision to withdraw would enable the Council to make a revenue saving of around £550,000 per annum.

The leisure centre is owned by the Foundation Trustees and any decisions around the future operation of the site would be for them as the land and property owner. The Council would be keen to support them during this transitional period with applications for exceptional factor funding as well as identifying ways to maximise school and community use of the facilities.

The all-weather pitch is a vital facility and one-off funding (up to £150k) could enable this to be replaced during 2023/24, benefitting both Queen Elizabeth School (QES) and the community. This would also allow QES to generate enough income to create a sinking fund for any future replacement.

19 EXEMPT BUSINESS

It was proposed by Cllr P Wharf seconded by Cllr T Ferrari

Decision

That the press and the public be excluded for the following 2 item(s) in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 4 of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

20 REVIEW OF REDUNDANCY PAY

Decision

That the recommendations set out within the exempt report be approved.

21 ADULT SOCIAL CARE - FUTURE SERVICES

Decision

That the recommendations set out within the exempt report be approved.