

Shareholder Committee for Dorset Innovation Park Ltd

16 July 2025

Terms of reference

For Review and Consultation

Cabinet Member and Portfolio:

Cllr R Biggs, Property & Assets and Economic Growth

Local Councillor(s):

Cllr L Beddow, Cllr M Baker

Executive Director:

J Britton, Executive Director for Place Services

Report Author: Colin Wood

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

Brief Summary:

This report presents the terms of reference for the Shareholder Committee for Dorset Innovation Park Ltd.

Recommendation:

Shareholders are asked to receive the terms of reference and support the continued cooperation between the Council and Dorset Innovation Park Ltd.

Reason for Recommendation:

1. Report

- 1.1** The Council currently owns and manages Dorset Innovation Park, a large industrial estate with Enterprise Zone status near Wool. A Cabinet decision taken in November 2024 reviewed potential management options and agreed the formation of an arm's length company as the preferred management arrangement for the Innovation Park.

- 1.2 In March 2025 Cabinet approved the formation of a wholly owned but independent Dorset Council trading company limited by shares. The Council will have a 100% shareholding in the company.
- 1.3 Cabinet agreed that an Executive Committee be established, to be known as 'The Shareholder Committee for Dorset Innovation Park Limited', to provide strategic oversight and decision making on matters reserved to the Shareholder in a Shareholder Agreement.
- 1.4 The Shareholder Agreement is underway but not yet finalised as this cannot be agreed with the Company until the substantive directors are appointed and undertaking their roles. This agreement will be completed between this meeting and the October Shareholder Committee.
- 1.5 The Terms of Reference will be updated once the Shareholder Agreement is completed to add a complete list of the Reserved Matters to the Terms of Reference.
- 1.6 March 2025 Cabinet also agreed delegation of authority to the Executive Director Place in consultation with the Director Legal and Democratic, Executive Director Corporate Development and the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Assets, Property and Economic Growth to approve the Terms of Reference for the Shareholder Committee.
- 1.7 The initial terms of reference agreed under the delegation are presented to the Shareholder Committee as an appendix to this report.

2. Financial Implications

- 3.1 A projected Financial Model for Dorset Innovation Park Ltd was presented to Cabinet on 25 March 2025.

3. Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Implications

- 4.1 N/A

4. Well-being and Health Implications

- 5.1 N/A

5. Other Implications

- 6.1 None at this stage.

6. **Risk Assessment**

N/A

7. **Equalities Impact Assessment**

Complete

8. **Appendices**

Shareholder Committee for Dorset Innovation Park Ltd Terms of Reference

9. **Background Papers**

[Cabinet Report 25 March 2025 - Dorset Innovation Park – Arm's Length Management Company Final.pdf](#)

10. **Report Sign Off**

- 11.1 This report has been through the internal report clearance process and has been signed off by the Director for Legal and Democratic (Monitoring Officer), the Executive Director for Corporate Development (Section 151 Officer) and the appropriate Portfolio Holder(s)