



The Cabinet Forward Plan - May to August 2026 (Publication date – 21 APRIL 2026)

Explanatory Note:

This Forward Plan contains future items to be considered by the Cabinet and Council. It is published 28 days before the next meeting of the Committee. The plan includes items for the meeting including key decisions. Each item shows if it is 'open' to the public or to be considered in a private part of the meeting.

Definition of Key Decisions

Key decisions are defined in Dorset Council's Constitution as decisions of the Cabinet which are likely to -

- (a) to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates (**Thresholds - £500k**); or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the relevant local authority."

In determining the meaning of "*significant*" for these purposes the Council will have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 9Q of the Local Government Act 2000 Act. Officers will consult with lead members to determine significance and sensitivity.

Cabinet Members and Portfolios 2024/25

Nick Ireland	Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Performance and Safeguarding
Richard Biggs	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Property & Assets and Economic Growth
Jon Andrews	Place Services
Shane Bartlett	Planning and Emergency Planning
Simon Clifford	Finance & Capital Strategy
Ryan Hope	Customer, Culture and Community Engagement
Steve Robinson	Adult Social Care
Clare Sutton	Children's Services, Education & Skills
Gill Taylor	Health and Housing.
Ben Wilson	Corporate Development and Transformation

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
2026					

May

Dorset National Landscape grant funding 2026-2029 Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open In January 2026 the hosted partnership team for the Dorset National Landscape should be notified of its grant allocation from Defra for 2026-2027 and indicative allocations for 2027-2029. All support delivery of the Management Plan previously adopted by Cabinet.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026		Cabinet Member for Planning and Emergency Planning	Mike Garrity, Corporate Director for Planning mike.garrity@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Tom Munro, Dorset National Landscape Manager tom.munro@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (Jan Britton)
Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategic Funding Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open A strategic funding paper seeking Council Support for Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Capital Programme and pipeline.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026		Cabinet Member for Place Services	Jack Wiltshire, Corporate Director for Highways and Engineering jack.wiltshire@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Matthew Penny, Service Manager - Flood & Coastal Erosion matthew.penny@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Place (Jan Britton)

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
Procurement arrangements for alternative provision services Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open Increasing the level of authorised spend on alternative provision services, following the conversion of the Supporting Progress & Inclusion Framework to a DSP, and extension from August 2026 to February 2029.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026		Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills	<i>Claire Webb, Strategic Commissioner</i> <i>claire.webb@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>, <i>Ross Bowell, Head of Service - Health, Education & SEND Commissioning</i> <i>ross.bowell@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Children (Paul Dempsey)</i>
Dft rental E-scooter trial Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open Seeking Cabinet approval to enable two areas of Dorset to introduce an e-scooter rental service trial. The two areas are: 1) Upton and Corfe Mullen 2) Weymouth, Portland, Chickereil and Dorchester.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026		Cabinet Member for Place Services	<i>Christopher Whitehouse, Projects Team Manager</i> <i>christopher.whitehouse@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>, <i>Kate Tunks, Service Manager for Infrastructure and Assets</i> <i>kate.tunks@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Place (Jan Britton)</i>
Future direction of public health contracts following disaggregation of the Shared Service Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open This report will update Cabinet on commissioning intentions, and preferred arrangements for commissioning public health services	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026		Cabinet Member for Health and Housing	<i>Sam Crowe, Director of Public Health</i> <i>sam.crowe@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Director of Public Health and Prevention (Sam Crowe)</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
following disaggregation of the shared service in 2024-25. Cabinet is asked to support the recommendations on future direction of travel for public health contracts. A mirror paper is going to BCP Council Cabinet with the same recommendations.					
Green Seafront Ground Stabilisation & Shore Road Improvement Projects - Funding Request Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open Funding request for Swanage Town Council's Green Seafront stabilisation project and Dorset Highway's Shore Road Improvements project.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026		Cabinet Member for Place Services	<i>Jack Wiltshire, Corporate Director for Highways and Engineering</i> <i>jack.wiltshire@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Place (Jan Britton)</i>
Advocacy and Independent Visitors contract spend approval Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open Request additional approval from Cabinet to increase the value of the Advocacy and Independent Visitors contract.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026		Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills	<i>Tina Ironside, Strategic Commissioner</i> <i>tina.ironside@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Children (Paul Dempsey)</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
Becoming a modern, sustainable unitary Key Decision - No Public Access - Open To socialise the North Star content, focusing on articulating our desired future state and the enabling factors that will underpin our vision and support effective delivery of the council plan priorities.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026		Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Performance and Safeguarding	<i>Liz Crocker, Head of Strategy</i> <i>liz.crocker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Steven Ford, Corporate Director for Strategy, Performance and Sustainability</i> <i>steven.ford@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Chief Executive</i>
June					

Bridport Reablement Centre Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open A report to provide an update on the Bridport Reablement Centre Project, including approval on the Stage 2 Scheme and award of the build contract to the preferred construction partner.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 23 Jun 2026	People and Health Overview Committee 29 Apr 2026	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care	<i>Sam Poole, Interim Corporate Director for Commissioning & Improvement</i> <i>samuel.poole@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Adults</i>
Draft Outturn Report 2025/26 Key Decision - No Public Access - Open To consider the 2025/26 Outturn report.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 23 Jun 2026		Cabinet Member for Finance & Capital Strategy	<i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sian Hedger, Deputy s151 Officer</i> <i>sian.hedger@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer</i>

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Aspire Annual Report Key Decision - No Public Access - Open To consider the Aspire Annual Report.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 23 Jun 2026		Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills	<i>Paula Golding, Corporate Director for Care and Protection</i> <i>paula.golding@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Children (Paul Dempsey)</i>
Holly Tree Lodge Public Mortuary - Capacity Investment Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open The body storage capacity at the Public Mortuary for Dorset requires improvement and the capacity to meet current and future demand. The facility is opened through an Inter-Agency Agreement between BCP and Dorset councils and a decision is required to agree Dorset Council's contribution.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 23 Jun 2026		Cabinet Member for Finance & Capital Strategy	<i>Graham Duggan, Head of Community & Public Protection</i> <i>graham.duggan@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Director of Public Health and Prevention (Sam Crowe)</i>
Capital Programme Review Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open The Capital Programme has been subject to a review, this report outlines the work that has been done, the proposed changes and subsequent recommendations.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 23 Jun 2026		Cabinet Member for Finance & Capital Strategy	<i>Hannah Brown, Service Manager (Finance)</i> <i>hannah.brown@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Place (Jan Britton)</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
Youth Justice Plan Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open To approve the Youth Justice Plan for 2026/27.	Decision Maker Dorset Council	Decision Date 16 Jul 2026	Cabinet 23 Jun 2026	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills	<i>David Webb, Head of Service - Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service</i> <i>david.webb@bcpcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Children (Paul Dempsey)</i>
Dorset Community Safety Plan 2026 - 2029 Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open New statutory three year community safety plan for the Dorset Council area. The plan has been written and agreed by the Council and partners through the Dorset Community Safety Partnership and now requires formal adoption by Dorset Council.	Decision Maker Dorset Council	Decision Date 16 Jul 2026	Cabinet People and Health Overview Committee 23 Jun 2026 18 May 2026	Cabinet Member for Health and Housing	<i>Andy Frost, Service Manager for Community Safety</i> <i>andy.frost@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i>
July					

Financial Provision for the Voluntary Community Sector Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open The current 5-year financial agreement for the VCS will be coming to an end in October 2026. This paper will propose the new support for them.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 28 Jul 2026	People and Health Overview Committee	Cabinet Member for Customer, Culture and Community Engagement	<i>Laura Cornette, Business Partner - Communities and Partnerships</i> <i>Laura.cornette@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Jennifer Lowis, Head of Strategic Communications and Engagement</i> <i>jennifer.louis@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer</i>
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Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
End of year performance report Key Decision - No Public Access - Open An end of year report on council plan delivery and broader organisational health.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 28 Jul 2026		Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Performance and Safeguarding, Chris Heighway, Performance and Analytics Team Manager	<i>Liz Crocker, Head of Strategy</i> <i>liz.crocker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Chief Executive</i>
September					
July 2026 (period 4) financial management report 26/27 Key Decision - No Public Access - Open To consider the Period 4 financial management report.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 8 Sep 2026		Cabinet Member for Finance & Capital Strategy	<i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sian Hedger, Deputy s151 Officer</i> <i>sian.hedger@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer</i>
October 2026					
Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report Key Decision - Yes Public Access – Open	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 6 Oct 2026		Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills	<i>Megan Cameron-Brown, Head of Quality Assurance and Partnerships</i> <i>megan.cameron-brown@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, People - Children (Paul Dempsey)</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
This is the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership's Annual Report 25/26 detailing the Partnership's activity from April 2025-March 2026 and is for Cabinet's information.					
November 2026					
Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open To consider the adoption of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 10 Nov 2026	Place and Resources Overview Committee	Cabinet Member for Place Services	<i>Russell Goff, Senior Ranger</i> <i>russell.goff@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Place</i> <i>(Jan Britton)</i>
September 2026 (period 6) financial management report 26/27 Key Decision - No Public Access - Open To consider the period 6 financial management report 2026/27.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 10 Nov 2026		Cabinet Member for Finance & Capital Strategy	<i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sian Hedger, Deputy s151 Officer</i> <i>sian.hedger@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer</i>
December 2026					
Mid year performance update	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 8 Dec 2026		Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate,	<i>Liz Crocker, Head of Strategy</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
Key Decision - No Public Access - Open To provide an update on mid-year progress in council plan delivery and broader organisational health.				Performance and Safeguarding	<i>liz.crocker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Chris Heighway, Performance and Analytics Team Manager chris.heighway@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Chief Executive</i>
February 2027					

December 2026 Quarter 3 financial management plan 2026/2027 Key Decision - No Public Access - Open To consider the Quarter 3 financial management plan 2026/27.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 2 Feb 2027		Cabinet Member for Finance & Capital Strategy	<i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sian Hedger, Deputy s151 Officer sian.hedger@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer</i>
Budget & Medium term financial plan strategy report (MTFP) Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open To consider the medium Term Financial (MTFP) and budget strategy.	Decision Maker Dorset Council	Decision Date 11 Feb 2027	Cabinet 2 Feb 2027	Cabinet Member for Finance & Capital Strategy	<i>Sean Cremer, Corporate Director for Finance and Commercial sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sian Hedger, Deputy s151 Officer sian.hedger@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director, Corporate Development - Section 151 Officer</i>

Private/Exempt Items for Decision

Each item in the plan above marked as 'private' will refer to one of the following paragraphs.

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the shadow council proposes:-
 - (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.