



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	<i>Mike Garrity, Corporate Director for Planning</i> <i>mike.garrity@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Tom Munro, Dorset National Landscape Manager</i> <i>tom.munro@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Regeneration, Infrastructure and Growth (Jan Britton)</i>
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, Assistant Chief Executive</i> <i>steven.ford@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Chief Executive</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
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 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.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026	People and Health Overview Committee 29 Apr 2026	Cabinet Member for Health and Housing	<i>Sam Crowe, Executive Director - Housing, Prevention and Communities</i> sam.crowe@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk <i>Executive Director - Housing, Prevention and Communities (Sam Crowe)</i>
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> jack.wiltshire@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk <i>Executive Director - Regeneration, Infrastructure and Growth (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
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 - Children's Services (Paul Dempsey)</i>
26/27 January 2026 Flood Investigation Studies Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open Dorset experienced several intense rainfall events through January 2026, culminating in Storm Chandra (26-27 January 2026) which delivered exceptionally heavy rain onto already saturated catchments, causing widespread flooding. As a result of the flooding impacts, Dorset Council committed £5m toward flood resilience in February 2026. This report details the approach to deliver four linked workstreams and seeks Cabinet support to undertake the necessary activities involved.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026		Cabinet Member for Place Services	<i>Matthew Penny, Service Manager - Flood & Coastal Erosion</i> <i>matthew.penny@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Jack Wiltshire, Corporate Director for Highways and Engineering</i> <i>jack.wiltshire@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Regeneration, Infrastructure and Growth (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
Procurement Pipeline Report - over £500k (2026-27) Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open Cabinet is required to approve all key decisions with financial consequences of £500k or more. It is good governance to provide Cabinet with a summary of all proposed procurement, that individually were estimated to be a total value of £500k or more, prior to procurement procedures formally commencing.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 19 May 2026		Cabinet Member for Finance & Capital Strategy	<i>Richard Freed, Service Manager for Commercial and Procurement</i> <i>richard.freed@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i>
June					

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, Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sian Hedger, Deputy s151 Officer</i> <i>sian.hedger@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i>
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 - Children's Services (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
Bridport Reablement Centre Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Part exempt 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		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>
Dorset Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy Key Decision - No Public Access - Open To consider extending the current strategy which expires 27 July 2026 until April 2027.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 23 Jun 2026		Cabinet Member for Health and Housing	<i>Sharon Attwater, Head of Housing</i> <i>sharon.attwater@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sam Brand, Service Manager for Housing Advice and Homelessness</i> <i>sam.brand@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Housing, Prevention and Communities (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 Dorset Council	Decision Date 16 Jul 2026	Cabinet 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 - Regeneration, Infrastructure and Growth (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
Dorset and BCP Council Local Transport Plan 2026 - 2041 Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open Following a successful consultation on the draft plan last year, the finalised new joint Local Transport Plan 2026 – 2041 is being preset ed for adoption.	Decision Maker Dorset Council	Decision Date 16 Jul 2026	Cabinet 23 Jun 2026	Cabinet Member for Place Services	<i>Owen Clark, Strategic and Policy Team Manager owen.clark@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Jack Wiltshire, Corporate Director for Highways and Engineering jack.wiltshire@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director - Regeneration, Infrastructure and Growth (Jan Britton)</i>
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 People and Health Overview Committee 18 May 2026	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills	<i>David Webb, Head of Service - Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service david.webb@bcpcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director - Children's Services (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 23 Jun 2026 People and Health Overview Committee 18 May 2026	Cabinet Member for Health and Housing	<i>Andy Frost, Service Manager for Community Safety andy.frost@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director - Housing, Prevention and Communities (Sam Crowe)</i>
July					

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
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 6 Jul 2026	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>Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i>
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	<i>Liz Crocker, Head of Strategy</i> <i>liz.crocker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Chris Heighway, Performance and Analytics Team Manager</i> <i>chris.leighway@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Chief Executive</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, Chickerell and Dorchester.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 28 Jul 2026	Place and Resources Overview Committee 4 Jun 2026	Cabinet Member for Place Services	<i>Christopher Whitehouse, Projects Team Manager</i> <i>christopher.whitehouse@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Kate Tunks, Service Manager for Infrastructure and Assets</i> <i>kate.tunks@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Regeneration, Infrastructure and Growth (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
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, Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sian Hedger, Deputy s151 Officer</i> <i>sian.hedger@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i>
October 2026					
Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open 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.	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 - Children's Services (Paul Dempsey)</i>
November 2026					

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
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 TBC	Cabinet Member for Place Services	<i>Russell Goff, Senior Ranger</i> <i>russell.goff@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Regeneration, Infrastructure and Growth (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, Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sian Hedger, Deputy s151 Officer</i> <i>sian.hedger@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i>
December 2026					
Mid year performance update Key Decision - No Public Access - Open To provide an update on mid-year progress in council plan delivery and broader organisational health.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 8 Dec 2026		Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Performance and Safeguarding	<i>Liz Crocker, Head of Strategy</i> <i>liz.crocker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Chris Heighway, Performance and Analytics Team Manager</i> <i>chris.heighway@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Chief Executive</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
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, Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i> <i>sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sian Hedger, Deputy s151 Officer</i> <i>sian.hedger@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Director - Resources (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, Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</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>

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.