



The Cabinet Forward Plan - November 2026 to February 2027 (Publication date – 6 OCTOBER 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 2026/27

Nick Ireland	Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate, Communications, Performance & Safeguarding
Richard Biggs	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Growth & Strategic Assets
Jack Jeanes	Place Services
Shane Bartlett	Planning and Planning Enforcement
Simon Clifford	Resources & Finance
Matt Bell	Public Health, Prevention & Communities
Steve Robinson	Adult Social Care & Health
Clare Sutton	Children, Families & Education
Gill Taylor	Housing & Homelessness
Ben Wilson	Transformation, Customer & Workforce

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
2026					
November 2026					
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 Resources and Finance	<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>
Parking Review and Strategy Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open To consider the Parking Strategy for Dorset Council.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 10 Nov 2026	Place and Resources Overview Committee 9 Jul 2026	Cabinet Member for Place Services	<i>David Rosselli, Transport & Parking Strategy Lead</i> <i>david.rosselli@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Jack Wiltshire, Corporate Director for Highways and Engineering</i> <i>jack.wiltshire@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Economy and Environment (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
Dog Related Public Space Protection Order 2027 Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open A Cabinet decision is required whether to approve the New Order, following recommendations report from the Place and Resources Overview Committee in Oct 2026.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 10 Nov 2026	Place and Resources Overview Committee 1 Oct 2026	Cabinet Member for Public Health, Prevention & Communities	<i>Janet Moore, Service Manager for Environmental Protection</i> <i>Janet.Moore@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Housing, Prevention and Communities (Sam Crowe)</i>
Transformation Update Key Decision - No Public Access - Open Update on transformation portfolio delivery, benefits realisation, portfolio performance and investment position.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 10 Nov 2026		Cabinet Member for Transformation, Customer & Workforce	<i>Nina Coakley, Head of Transformation and Design</i> <i>nina.coakley@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Modernisation and Customer Delivery (Lisa Cotton)</i>
Shillingstone Parish Neighbourhood Plan Review Key Decision - No Public Access - Open Item relating to “making (adoption) of the neighbourhood plan review following receipt of the examiner’s report.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 10 Nov 2026		Cabinet Member for Planning and Planning Enforcement	<i>Ed Gerry, Community Planning Manager</i> <i>ed.gerry@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Economy and Environment (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
Care Dorset Annual Performance Report Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open To receive and note the Care Dorset Annual Performance Report.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 10 Nov 2026		Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Health	<i>Lindsey Watson, Senior Democratic and Governance Officer</i> lindsey.watson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Director - Adult Social Care (Julia Ingram)
Proposed Procurement of Dredging Services for Bridport (West Bay) Harbour Report Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open Annual maintenance dredging is required at Bridport (West Bay) Harbour to maintain safe navigable depths and support the continued operation of the harbour. It is proposed to procure a five-year contract for annual dredging from 2027 to 2031, with an estimated total value of between £800,000 and £1 million. Due to the anticipated total contract value, Cabinet approval is required before the procurement process can commence. The five-year contract is the preferred approach. However, if it is not practicable to complete that procurement in time for the March 2027 dredging campaign, approval will also be sought to procure a single-year contract for 2027 as an interim measure.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 10 Nov 2026	Harbours Advisory Committee 2 Sep 2026	Cabinet Member for Place Services	<i>Ed Carter, Harbours Manager & Weymouth Harbour Master</i> ed.carter@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director - Economy and Environment (Jan Britton)

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Dorset Council - Procurement of Hotel and Guest House Managing Agents Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Part exempt Report seeking approval to award the contract for the management of Dorset Council Hotel and Guest Houses following the recent procurement.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 10 Nov 2026		Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Growth & Strategic Assets	<i>Julian Wain, Strategic Property Advisor</i> <i>Julian.wain@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Economy and Environment (Jan Britton)</i>
Asset Disposals and Transfers Update Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Part exempt A progress update on asset disposals and transfers.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date		Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Growth & Strategic Assets	<i>Carly Field, Service Manager - Strategic Asset Management</i> <i>carly.galloway@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Jay Ridsdale, Transfers and Disposals Manager</i> <i>jay.ridsdale@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Economy and Environment (Jan Britton)</i>
December 2026					
Review of Financial Assessment and Care Contributions Policy Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 8 Dec 2026	People and Health Overview Committee 2 Nov 2026	Cabinet Member for Resources and Finance, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Health, Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate,	<i>Nicola Fowler, Financial Assessments Team Manager</i> <i>nicola.fowler@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Date the Decision is Due	Other Committee(s) consulted and Date of meeting(s)	Portfolio Holder	Officer Contact
The policy was due to be reviewed and to update the policy in line with some legal challenges to the Care Act 2014 since its implementation. In doing so we have also amalgamated the Financial Assessment and Care Contributions policy and the Deferred Payment Agreement Policy and the two impact significantly on each other.				Communications, Performance & Safeguarding	
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 8 Dec 2026	Place and Resources Overview Committee 19 Nov 2026	Cabinet Member for Place Services	<i>Russell Goff, Senior Ranger</i> <i>russell.goff@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Executive Director - Economy and Environment</i> <i>(Jan Britton)</i>
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, Communications, Performance & Safeguarding	<i>Liz Crocker, Head of Strategy</i> <i>liz.crocker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> , <i>Chris Heighway, Performance and Analytics Team Manager</i> <i>chris.leighway@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Chief Executive</i>
Adult Directorate CQC Inspection Findings and Improvement Plan Key Decision - No Public Access - Open To provide Cabinet with an overview of the recent CQC inspection of Adult Services and the directorates ambitions for improvement.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 8 Dec 2026	People and Health Overview Committee 30 Nov 2026	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Health	<i>Amy-Jane White, Quality Assurance and Programme Lead</i> <i>amy-jane.white@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</i> <i>Director - Adult Social Care</i> <i>(Julia Ingram)</i>

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Rough Sleeper grant agreements Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Fully exempt To approve the award of grant agreements to organisations providing support to rough sleepers.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 8 Dec 2026		Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness	<i>Paul Derrien, Housing Enabling and Delivery Manager paul.derrien@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Melissa Johnson, Programme Manager melissa.johnson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director - Housing, Prevention and Communities (Sam Crowe)</i>
February 2027					

Crisis and Resilience Fund Key Decision - Yes Public Access - Open The policy to back up the Crisis and Resilience Fund Governance.	Decision Maker Cabinet	Decision Date 2 Feb 2027		Cabinet Member for Public Health, Prevention & Communities	<i>Laura Cornette, Business Partner - Communities and Partnerships Laura.cornette@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Executive Director - Modernisation and Customer Delivery (Lisa Cotton)</i>
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 Resources and Finance	<i>Sean Cremer, Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer) sean.cremer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, Sian Hedger, Deputy s151 Officer sian.hedger@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Director - Resources (Section 151 Officer)</i>

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