



Record of decision

THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS WERE TAKEN ON THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2017 BY THE CABINET

THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THESE DECISIONS EXPIRES AT 5.00 PM ON MONDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2017

Members of the Cabinet who were present

Cllrs Dave Stewart (Chairman), Barry Abraham, Paul Brading, John Hobart, Stuart Hutchinson, Clare Mosdell, Michael Murwill, Ian Ward, Wayne Whittle

Apologies

Cllr Gary Peace

Members also present (non-voting)

Cllrs Debbie Andre, Julia Baker-Smith, Paul Fuller, J Kilpatrick, Karl Love and Christopher Quirk

Confirmed as a true record of decisions taken

Leader of the Council

Agenda item	<u>Minutes of the Last Meeting</u>
Decision reference	25 (17/18)
Decision Taken	That the minutes of the meeting held on <u>13 July 2017</u> be agreed.
Questions / Amendments	None.

Agenda item	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>
Decision reference	26 (17/18)
	None declared.

Agenda item	<u>Public Question Time</u>
Decision reference	27 (17/18)
Questions	Mr David Miller of Cowes submitted a written question on the

	<p>subject of council run car parks parking meters.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure provided a written response. (PQ 18/17)</p> <p>Mr Timothy Cooper of Able Connections submitted three written questions in relation to the report of the Transport and Infrastructure Task Force.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure provided a written response. (PQ 19/17).</p> <p>A supplemental question was also asked by Mr Cooper on the timescales around the Island Plan. The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing responded by stating it would take approximately 18 months.</p> <p>Mrs Deborah Gardiner of Brading asked an oral question around the status of the five Syrian refugee families that the council had agreed to provide shelter for.</p> <p>The Deputy Leader responded by stating that three of the five families had been allocated homes on the Island and that they were settling in well and being offered the appropriate support. The Deputy Leader also advised that the council was looking forward to receiving the two other families in due course.</p> <p>Responding to a supplemental question over the offering of support from mainland authorities, the Deputy Leader advised that any offer, should it be forthcoming would be gratefully accepted.</p>
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Agenda item	Report of the Transport and Infrastructure Task Force
Decision reference	28 (17/18)
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure presented a report which sought approval of a report of the Island Transport Infrastructure Task Force (TITF) as well as endorsement of the recommendations included within it.</p> <p>Prior to Cabinet making a decision, Mr Christopher Garnett the lead on the Task Force gave a summary of the objectives and proposed outcomes of the initiative.</p> <p>It was noted that the two main priorities that needed to be addressed were around cross Solent ferry travel from the three main operators of Red Funnel, Wightlink and Hovertravel and the Islands rail franchise. Engagement with these stakeholders would therefore be sought.</p> <p>Cabinet wished to thank Mr Garnett for all his hard work and</p>

	<p>efforts in putting together the TITF and setting out its recommendations.</p> <p>The Leader of the Council confirmed that the independent study undertaken to evaluate the feasibility and cost benefit of a fixed link across the Solent (road or rail) would not be funded by the council and that a clear and balanced approach should be used.</p> <p>Comments and recommendations for all items on the Cabinet agenda recorded at the Scrutiny Committee that was held on 12 September 2017 were circulated and noted. (Click Here)</p>
Issues raised by other members	No issues raised by other members.
Decision taken	THAT the report of the Transport Infrastructure Task Force and the recommendations as set out in the Appendix of the report be endorsed and agreed.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>To consider the needs of the Island in respect of infrastructure growth that would be needed to enable the economic growth of the area.</p> <p>To adhere to the following Corporate Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing the economy and tourism; • Working in partnership to improve outcomes; • Protecting the public; • Delivering statutory duties and achieving value for money.
Options considered and rejected	<p>I. Option 2 - To endorse the report of the TITF and agree the recommendations with amendments as considered appropriate by Cabinet.</p> <p>II. Option 3 - Not to endorse the report or agree the recommendations as set out in the Appendix of this report.</p>
Declarations of Interests	None declared

Agenda item	<u>Consideration of Motions Submitted to Full Council 19 July 2017</u>
Decision reference	29 (17/18)
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet considered the two motions submitted to Full Council on 19 July 2017 with regard to suspending the foot passenger charges for the Floating Bridge until such time that all the current issues had been fully resolved as well as providing free travel for parents escorting their children to school if they lived on the opposite side of the river to the

	<p>school where their child attended.</p> <p>The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources advised that since the Floating Bridge had been withdrawn from service, a provision for foot passengers and cyclists had been introduced and it was intended to extend the hours of the service to match those of the Floating Bridge in due course. However, any such service would need to be funded from fare paying users in order to maintain it as there was no additional resources to be able to do so.</p> <p>The cost of running the service was currently an additional £30,000 although should the timetable be extended then this would rise to £50,000. The Floating Bridge was a discretionary service and that a free provision of the facility would impact further on the council's deficit of £500,000 on the service and would also inhibit the ability to address the overall £7.5million council savings that were required.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member therefore recommended that there would be no changes made to the policy in respect of the two motions.</p> <p>Both motions would therefore return to all members at Full Council on 20 September 2017 for further debate.</p>
Issues raised by other members	It was clarified that the cost of a parent taking their children over the medina on the Floating Bridge was £3 per day and not £6.
Declarations of Interests	None declared

Agenda item	Quarterly Performance and Finance Report - Quarter One
Decision reference	30 (17/18)
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Resources presented the first quarterly Performance and Finance report (ending 30 June 2017) which set out the outturn results of the council's performance against the established indicators and targets that underpinned the delivery of the current corporate plan.</p> <p>It was noted that the next performance report for the second quarter would be prepared against the new Corporate Plan which was due to be considered at the October 2017 meetings of Cabinet and Full Council.</p>
Issues raised by other members	No issues raised
Decision taken	THAT the performance in relation to the council's priorities as

	set out in this report and the priority report detail as set out in Appendix A of the report, together with the council's financial position as set out at Appendices B and C of the report, be noted.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>To provide the Cabinet (and subsequently the council's scrutiny function) with the necessary information to record achievements and challenge areas of underperformance and to account for it to the wider community.</p> <p>To support the following corporate themes as set out on the 2015 – 2017 Corporate Plan;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping children safe; • Improving standards of education; • Delivering person-centred, co-ordinated social care and health services; • Growing the economy and tourism; • Working in partnership to improve outcomes; • Protecting the public; • Delivering statutory duties and achieving value for money.
Options considered and rejected	There were no other options to consider.
Declarations of Interests	None declared

Agenda item	<u>Commercial Property as Investment</u>
Decision reference	31 (17/18)
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Resources presented a report which proposed a methodology for the council to begin a programme of property acquisition.</p> <p>It was noted that the strategy was consistent with the medium term financial strategy (MTFS) and was intended to exploit commercial opportunities as well as secure a pipeline of income that would contribute to the council's future financial sustainability.</p>
Issues raised by other members	No issues raised by other members.
Decision taken	<p>THAT full Council be recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Approve the commercial property investment strategy as set out in Appendix A and that all purchases of investment properties must comply with this strategy.

	<p>II. That subject to full Council agreeing the commercial property investment strategy, the Cabinet delegates to the chief executive and the section 151 officer, in consultation with the Cabinet member for resources that following proper due diligence, the authority to acquire investment properties in accordance with the approved investment strategy.</p> <p>III. That Cabinet agrees, subject to a waiver to contract standing orders being granted, to enter into a twelve-month agreement with Portsmouth City Council to commence the acquisition of a property portfolio.</p> <p>IV. That a report be prepared on a six monthly basis for submission to audit committee, setting out the progress of the property investment fund, including the total income that will be accrued by the council on an annual basis as a result of this policy.</p>
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>To secure an increase in income for the Isle of Wight council.</p> <p>To align with priority four of the 2015 - 2017 corporate plan in that it contributes to “ensuring that all the resources available to the Island are used in the most effective way in achieving the Island’s priorities”.</p>
Options considered and rejected	<p>Option A - That no further action be taken on this proposal.</p> <p>Option C - That an alternative property investment strategy be developed and approved.</p> <p>Option F - That another approach to the delivery of the investment portfolio be pursued, either through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Initiating a competitive tendering procurement exercise or ii. Utilising the in-house team by securing the necessary internal expertise
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	<u>Delivering Educational Excellence Strategic Plan for School Improvement - 1 June 2017 to 31 July 2021</u>
Decision reference	32 (17/18)
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet Member for Children’s Services presented a report which set out the key focus areas and associated actions to improve further the quality of education in Isle of Wight schools, in line with the Department for Education’s (DfE) letter of

	direction.
Issues raised by other members	No issues raised by other members.
Decision taken	THAT the Strategic Plan as set out in the Appendix to the report, be agreed.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>To improve the education of all pupils on the Island and aspire that every pupil would have access to a place in a good or better school by 2020 – 2021.</p> <p>To work closely with all schools on the Island, irrespective of status and governance arrangements, to support their pursuit of high standards.</p> <p>To enable schools to strengthen achievement with the expectation that all would engage and work alongside each other, together with the further education colleges and the Isle of Wight Council.</p> <p>To adhere to the corporate priority of improving standards of education.</p>
Options considered and rejected	Option 2 - Approve the Strategic Plan with amendments
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	<u>Isle Help Strategic Partnership Annual Progress Report</u>
Decision reference	33 (17/18)
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health presented a report which provided an overview of the progress being made through the partnership in providing advice, information and guidance (AIG) provisions through its annual report. The report also recommended that Cabinet notes the 2016/17 annual report as set out in the Appendix to it.</p> <p>Members were also recommended to note and approve the request by the partnership parties to extend the agreement for a further year from 1 July 2018, as per the existing terms of the partnership agreement, for an agreed funding level of £151,200. This would enable the continuation of the One Public Estate ambitions and strategy that sought to align AIG provision in order to work in partnership and continue to model and evaluate future needs for AIG provisions.</p> <p>It was noted that an additional recommendation was proposed and seconded that requested that the council approached other statutory agencies whose clients benefited from Isle Help</p>

	advice, information and guidance services. This would enable the council to explore the potential of these partners to make a contribution to funding AIG provisions in the longer term.
Issues raised by other members	No issues raised by other members.
Decision taken	<p>I. THAT the contents of the partnership agreement annual report in accordance with option 1 be noted.</p> <p>II. THAT the request by the partnership parties to extend the agreement for a further year from 1 July 2018 (as per the existing option contained within the partnership agreement), for an agreed annual funding level of £151,200, be noted and approved.</p> <p>III. THAT the councils approach to other statutory agencies whose clients benefit from isle help advice, information and guidance services to explore the potential of these partners to make a contribution to funding AIG provisions in the longer term, be agreed.</p>
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>To ensure that the council is able to apply its resources most effectively by having a means of ensuring that services are commissioned and delivered effectively and efficiently regardless of which sector provides the services</p> <p>To support the delivery of the following council priorities. They include in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 3 - protecting the most vulnerable with health and social care, investing in support, prevention and continuing care; and • Priority 4 - ensuring that all the resources available to the Island are used in the most effective way in achieving the Island's priorities.
Options considered and rejected	Option 3 – Cabinet notes and declines the request to extend the existing AIG partnership agreement at the expiry of the three year period (2017/18) and transfer responsibility for such AIG provision services to the council to provide.
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	<u>Consideration of the Forward Plan</u>
Decision reference	34 (17/18)
Amendments / Additions / Removals	Members reviewed the Forward Plan and no issues were raised.

	<p>Cabinet Members then provided a brief update on each of their areas of remit since the last meeting.</p> <p>These included thanking Wightcare for the services they had provided to the council as well as the future introduction of new garden waste bins for residents as part of the waste collection arrangements.</p>
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	<u>Members' Question Time</u>
Decision reference	35 (17/18)
Questions	No written questions were received and no oral questions were asked.
Declarations of Interests	None declared.