



# Record of decision

**THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS WERE TAKEN BY THE CABINET ON THURSDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THESE DECISIONS EXPIRES AT 5.00 PM ON MONDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Members of the Cabinet who were present

Cllrs Dave Stewart (Chairman), Barry Abraham, Paul Brading, Steve Hastings, John Hobart, Clare Mosdell, Tig Outlaw, Ian Ward, Wayne Whittle

Members also present (non-voting)

Cllrs Debbie Andre, Paul Fuller

Officers Present

Chris Ashman, Mark Howe, Sarah MacDonald (notes), John Metcalfe, Helen Miles, Wendy Perera

Apologies for Absence

Cllr Stuart Hutchinson

Confirmed as a true record of decisions taken

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**Leader of the Council**

<b>Agenda item</b>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
Decision reference	<b>22 (19/20)</b>
Decision Taken	That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2019 be agreed.
Questions / Amendments	None.

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Declarations of Interest</a></u></b>
Decision reference	<b>23 (19/20)</b>
	Cllr Stewart declared that he was now a member of the Local Government Association Board for Strengthening Communities.

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Public Question Time</a></u></b>
Decision reference	<b>24 (19/20)</b>
Summary of Discussion	<p><b><u>Written Questions</u></b></p> <p>Ieuan Jehu asked a question querying the pupil capacity of the renovated All Saints' site, as communicated with the DfE and LEA (<a href="#">PQ42/19</a>). The Cabinet member for Children's Services, Education and Skills provided a response.</p> <p>Mr Jehu asked a supplementary question, whether, in light of the reduction in the published admission number the Council would be looking to reduce the size of the estate under the financial responsibility of All Saints in order to ensure the financial stability of it.</p> <p>The Cabinet member provided a response.</p> <p><b><u>Oral Questions</u></b></p> <p>There were no further oral questions.</p>

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Chairman's Announcements</a></u></b>
Decision reference	<b>25 (19/20)</b>
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Chairman announced that a strategy paper would shortly be published in relation to the Island Plan and he would be leading the Cabinet team in direct liaison with Town and Parish Councils and expressed his thanks to Northwood Parish Council for hosting a recent meeting.</p> <p>The Chairman reaffirmed the Council's focus on the infrastructure on the Island in particular St Mary's Junction, Medina Bridge and Islandline. Further details would be given at Full Council next week.</p> <p>In relation to the budget for next year, it had been the intention to go out early with the budget, however, as indicated at the last Scrutiny meeting on 10 September 2019, the council was not in a</p>

	<p>position to do so, for a number of reasons, including uncertainty over Brexit, the funding formula which was to be deferred back from April next year, The MP and Chairman had been working to push forward proposals for the Island Deal but had yet to receive a response, there was a new Chancellor, the Council had yet to hear back on the Adult Social Care green paper which was crucial to the Island, and finally the current budget position reflected a different situation to the previous year. The Cabinet were therefore taking a cautious approach to the council's budget.</p>
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<b>Agenda item</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Quarterly Performance Monitoring Report – Quarter 1</a></u></b>
Decision reference	<b>26 (19/20)</b>
Summary of Discussion	<p>Members had been circulated with the report, which had been considered at Scrutiny on 10 September. The response was that the Cabinet member for Infrastructure and Transport to confirm the levels of resources available for implementing residents parking schemes, that arrangements be made for members to visit Ryde extra care scheme under construction, the Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Public Protection be requested to submit a report on the review of Regulatory Services, the Cabinet Member for the Environment and Heritage provide a briefing note on progress for the proposed Newport to Yarmouth Cycle track and that a report be submitted to the Committee on income generation subject to the scope being agreed with the Chairman and Chief Executive.</p> <p>Members had no other observations to make on the report.</p> <p>The Chairman highlighted that the current forecasted budget pressure for 2019/20 was £1.2 million, which was 0.8% over the original estimate. The additional costs of Looked After Children were contributing to this, where the rate on the Island was higher when compared to other authorities. Ideas would be sought from Town and Parish Councils, other Councillors and any local residents for suggestions for bridging the gap and being more innovative about income generation.</p> <p>Cllr Mosdell was concerned that the public may misinterpret Members' silence and assured the public that they were well aware of the content of the report and working hard on the issues and concerns raised within it.</p> <p>Council staff from other buildings had been relocated to County Hall bringing a saving, and there had been no adverse comments other than in relation to parking issues.</p> <p>Average time taken to answer calls in contact centre had remained at around 60 seconds which had reduced from July 2017 when it was 200 secs. The Chairman thanked the staff responsible.</p>

	In Adult Social Care and Children's Services performance strong in June, adult safeguarding meetings 98.4% held within 7 days and 100% of initial child protection conference within 15 days. Very positive outcome.
Decision taken	That Cabinet approves the Quarter 1 (2019/20) Performance and Finance Report and the priority report details as set out in Appendix A, together with the council's position as set out at Appendices B and C.
Options considered and rejected	None

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Cabinet Member Announcements</a></u></b>
Decision reference	<b>27 (19/20)</b>
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills reported that recent exam results on the Island had been the best for a number of years. 'A' Levels had improved from an average grade of C- to a C. GCSE grades 4-9 had increased from 55% - 60% across the Island- the national average was 64%. Two schools were well above the national average. Christ the King were praised as they had increased by 12.5% despite a challenging year. With new leadership their results were the best they had ever received. Key Stage 2 had increased by 5% in reading, writing and maths. 15 of the Island's 40 schools were above the national average. Maths was up 8%. Those schools which had received extra funding for maths had increased by 15%. Some schools still required and would receive further support.</p> <p>On the issue of West Wight Primary Schools' surplus places, the Cabinet Member confirmed that the public notice which was to be issued for public consultation as agreed at Cabinet on 11 July 2019 had been withdrawn due to a legal challenge by way of judicial review. To fight this challenge would be a costly and time-consuming process. The overall plans to look at the future of the school places in the area were therefore being reviewed. The aim was still to reduce the number of schools in the West Wight from five to four. Data showed there were currently 90 pupils in each year group, forecasted to fall to 60 per year group, therefore to have five schools was an inefficient use of resources. Reducing the number of schools to four would provide greater financial stability for those remaining schools. The aim was to significantly reduce the number of surplus places in the West Wight to match the projected need and place the remaining four schools in locations with the highest density of children, whilst securing a multi-million pound investment from the DfE for the All Saints' site to create a high quality school with attractive modern buildings and help the</p>

long term sustainability for education in the West Wight. It would be the largest investment in the West Wight for a number of years. The focus was on school improvement leading to high quality outcomes for all pupils. Officers had been asked to prepare a report for Cabinet in October 2019 to outline the best way of achieving the aims stated. The Chairman thanked the Cabinet Member for the work done. Several meetings and discussions had taken place over the summer to enable a report to be ready by October.

The Cabinet Member for Procurement, Waste Management, Special Projects and Forward Planning reported that the Forest Road waste plant had undergone a 30-day trial and was on target to open in Spring 2020.

The Green Waste subscription service had reached 7000, with a waiting list of a further 700. A further waste vehicle had been ordered for delivery at the end of September/early October which would reduce the waiting list considerably. A direct debit scheme was being considered for renewal of subscriptions and for the Collection Plus service which had recently been extensively marketed.

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Heritage would be going with Cllr Hastings to visit those who had expressed an interest in taking over the management of Dinosaur Isle.

Progress for the proposed new Records Office at Cothey Bottom was dependent on the outcome of the analysis of capital programme bids which was ongoing.

Newport Roman Villa had held a Festival of Archaeology and had received 418 visitors on 27 July 2019, a record number of people in one day. Frank Basford had identified over 200 artefacts brought in by the public.

The libraries had provided a summer reading challenge for children, however figures for the number of participants were not yet available. Several activities had been provided for adults and children over the summer. The impact of other groups using the libraries was being assessed. Recently the libraries had taken delivery of the 'Time to Read' book which would be delivered as a gift to every reception child in the near future.

The Cabinet member had been to Quarr Abbey to gather feedback from the monks regarding the use of their land for the coastal path. The path may need to divert inland. Natural England were due to finalise the coastal path by the end of February 2020 and would make the final decision.

The Cabinet member for Planning and Housing reported that he had visited various Town and Parish Councils to hear their concerns and gather feedback on the Island Plan. Numbers which had been delivered in the past three years were 417, 324 and 371 properties which equated to 71% of the target. Through the local policy review the government's expected number may need to be lower and the characteristics identified which would support an inquiry. The Council would need a barrister for support. No other council appeared to have challenged the government, however it was believed that the council was a unique case.

The Chairman reported that the Housing Strategy for the next 12 months was due to be published shortly and that he would be working on it with the local Member of Parliament.

The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport reported that the parking arrangements in Union Street in Ryde had been reconfigured to facilitate customer parking for local businesses.

The Cabinet member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs reported that Shackleton Ward at St Mary's hospital would remain closed and care provided in the community. Adult Social Care staff would work closely with the NHS trust to ensure that the best was done for the community and this would be discussed at the Local Care Board.

Progress was being made for a 'wet' shelter for the homeless. The location could not yet be revealed as discussions were needed with the local community. The ward councillor was supportive. The Cabinet Member had visited similar shelters on the mainland which were well-managed. Those using the shelter would be directed to the right support to address their drugs and alcohol, mental health or other issues.

The Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Public Protection reported that he had attended meetings with Hampshire Fire Authority, most recently on 3 September 2019. An informal partnership had existed with Hampshire Fire Authority for the last five years, which was due to end in April 2020 and would need to be extended until the Combined Fire Authority was to come into existence in April 2021. A report was to be presented to Full Council on 18 September 2019 to approve the Integrated Risk Management Plan in preparation for the combined authority.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Business Development reported that a price had been agreed for the purchase of the Columbine buildings at East Cowes. There was an opportunity to bring back funding from the Local Enterprise Partnership.

There had been a great amount of engagement with Venture Quays and jobs had been preserved, which was good news for the

	Island. More good news was to be reported at Full Council on 18 September 2019.
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<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Forward Plan</a></u></b>
Decision reference	<b>28 (19/20)</b>
	<p>Consideration was given to the Forward Plan.</p> <p>Items due for Full Council were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Polling Places and Districts</li> <li>• Revision of Integrated Risk Management Plan/Appointment of member to Shadow Board for the Combined Fire Authority</li> <li>• Appointment of Monitoring Officer</li> </ul> <p>Items due for October Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West Wight School Places – Decision</li> <li>• Approval of IW Commercial Strategy</li> <li>• Commercial Trading Company</li> </ul> <p>The Chairman noted that it was Helen Miles' last Cabinet meeting as Monitoring Officer and thanked her for the work she had done for the Council. A report would be presented to Full Council on 18 September for an Interim Monitoring Officer. The Chairman wished Helen well in her new venture.</p>
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Members' Questions</a></u></b>
Decision reference	<b>29 (19/20)</b>
Summary of Discussion	<p>Cllr Andre asked for the timescales for the procurement of a managing organisation for Dinosaur Isle to be completed. Cllr Hastings reported that he and Cllr Hobart were due to visit the two potential partners in the second half of September. The Chairman advised that in relation to the procurement process, one of the key issues was the necessary accreditation required which was crucial as the Council was linked to the National Museum. It was hoped that by the end of the year any questions would be fully answered.</p> <p>Cllr Fuller asked what preparation the Council were making for Brexit and a 'no-deal'. The Chairman advised that he had attended meetings with Hampshire councils and all members would be receiving an up to date briefing sheet in the near future from the Local Resilience Forum on the potential challenges and the action being taken to mitigate them.</p>

	<p>The Director of Regeneration reiterated that the medium-and-longer term impacts had also been discussed. Members would be kept updated.</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that there were additional costs and some funding had been received.</p> <p>Cllr Fuller sought reassurance that there would not be issues with medical supplies. Cllr Mosdell confirmed that the Local Care Board had been meetings every two weeks and it was discussed on a regular basis at a very senior level.</p> <p>The Chief Executive confirmed that the CCG and NHS were working closely with the Department of Health to maintain medical supplies. The Council was being asked to reinforce the national communication messages regarding Brexit and the final information was awaited so that media messaging could start at the end of September. Chief Executives were communicating directly with the Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government through a lead Chief Executive in each of nine regions.</p> <p>The Local Care Board had discussed the importance of flu vaccinations, especially for those working with vulnerable persons, including those in the voluntary sector. All council front line services would be included, and vaccination was planned across all Adult Social Care staff.</p>
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