



Record of decision

**THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS WERE TAKEN BY THE CABINET ON
THURSDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2019**

**THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THESE DECISIONS EXPIRES AT 5.00 PM ON
MONDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2019**

Members of the Cabinet who were present

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

Members also present (non-voting)

Cllrs Debbie Andre, Karl Love, Brian Tyndall

Officers Present

Steve Crocker, Sarah MacDonald (notes), John Metcalfe, Wendy Perera, Claire Shand, Geoff Wild

Apologies for Absence

Cllr Tig Outlaw

Confirmed as a true record of decisions taken
Leader of the Council

Agenda item	<u>Minutes</u>
Decision reference	30 (19/20)
Decision Taken	That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2019 be agreed.
Questions / Amendments	None.

Agenda item	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>
Decision reference	31 (19/20)
	None
Agenda item	<u>Public Question Time</u>
Decision reference	32 (19/20)
Summary of Discussion	<p><u>Written Questions</u></p> <p>Ieuan Jehu asked a question querying the PAN at All Saints' Primary and Yarmouth Primary from September 2020 (<u>PQ47/19</u>). The Cabinet member for Children's Services, Education and Skills provided a response.</p> <p>Mr Jehu asked a supplementary question relating to the requirement for population forecasts to be considered and the need for the reason for the closure to be declared. Mr Jehu asked whether the report would be withdrawn from consideration at the meeting.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills provided a response.</p> <p><u>Oral Question 1</u></p> <p>Carly Wyre-Nock asked a question regarding the letters which the the council had received from the governing body of Yarmouth Primary regarding their reluctance to accept the closure and relocation of Yarmouth Primary. The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills provided a response.</p> <p>Ms Wyre-Nock asked a supplementary question regarding the assurances that would be given, should the implementation groups go ahead, that parents and staff of All Saints' would be consulted, and their views taken into account, as they knew the site best. The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills gave assurances that they would be included in discussions regarding the design of any new school.</p> <p><u>Oral Question 2</u></p> <p>Margaret Willis asked a question regarding the housing target for the Isle of Wight, and whether the council would challenge the government's figures.</p>

	<p>The Cabinet Members responsible for Housing, Resources and Housing Needs all provided responses indicating that the council was collating evidence with which to challenge the numbers indicated in the Island Plan. The council was aware of the need for affordable housing for local people and had set up a housing company to deliver affordable homes. Other local authorities were also challenging the government's target figures and the council needed to gather enough evidence in order to have the best chance of success. The island's MP was supportive and would need to challenge the numbers. There were currently 2557 people on the housing register for the island.</p> <p>There were no further oral questions.</p>
--	---

Agenda item	<u>Chairman's Announcements</u>
Decision reference	33 (19/20)
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Chairman announced that he had met with the minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government and had discussed housing on the island. He had also discussed with the MP the Island Deal, setting out the additional funding the island should be entitled to and the reasons why. He expressed confidence that the government were fully sighted on the deal proposals and was waiting for confirmation.</p> <p>The Chairman reminded those present that the council was required to find £4.5 million additional savings, either through income generation or by finding different ways of doing things, in order to balance its budget in 2020/21. The council would be unable to indicate its budget as early as had been hoped due to uncertainties around government funding and policy decisions.</p> <p>The Chairman reported that he had attended an awards evening which highlighted the accident that had taken place in Forest Road, Newport, and the actions taken by the emergency services at that time. The Chairman indicated that he had been very proud of all those involved.</p>

Agenda item	<u>West Wight School Places - Update</u>
Decision reference	34 (19/20)
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills summarised the report, and reminded those present that, following the threat of judicial review, the previous consultation process had been suspended and the council had taken the opportunity to review its position on how best to resolve the issue of the West Wight school places.</p>

	<p>The Cabinet Member reiterated the reasons for the proposals, indicated in the report.</p> <p>Following further dialogue with the governing body of Yarmouth and Shalfleet and the Portsmouth and Winchester CE diocese, the council's original approach remained the best option. The governing body had now proposed a relocation to the Freshwater site and the diocese were in support of the proposal. The Cabinet member thanked the governing body.</p> <p>The views of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee held on 8 October 2019 were that the recommendations be noted.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs suggested that should the proposals proceed, the planning of the building of the new school should involve staff and parents of both current schools, in order to bring people closer together and address some of the negative comments which had been posted on social media. This was supported by the Cabinet member for Children's Services, Education and Skills.</p> <p>Cllr Hutchinson, as the local member for the West Wight, reminded those present that he had previously opposed the recommendation based on the opposition of the Yarmouth school governors, but now that their stance had changed, he would no longer oppose the recommendation.</p>
Decision taken	<p>a) that a Public Notice be published in accordance with Section 15 of the Education and Inspection Act 2006 to discontinue All Saints' Church of England Primary School with effect from 31 August 2020 and;</p> <p>officers be authorised to support the Governing Body of The Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Yarmouth to undertake a period of consultation on the relocation of Yarmouth CE Primary School to the Freshwater site for the start of the 2021 academic year.</p> <p>A further report be brought to Cabinet in January 2020 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approve the outcome of the Public Notice period on the closure of All Saints' CE Primary School and; • consider the implications of the outcome of the consultation on the relocation of Yarmouth CE Primary School.

Options considered and rejected	<p>b) To close Yarmouth CE Primary School and to maintain All Saints' CE Primary School; subject to further periods of consultation.</p> <p>c) To close Yarmouth CE Primary School and All Saints' CE Primary School and to open a new academy on the Freshwater site subject to further periods of consultation.</p>
---------------------------------	---

Agenda Item	<u>Commercial Strategy</u>
Decision reference	35 (19/20)
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Chairman summarised the report, the purpose of which was to set out the reasons for the need to generate income to avoid a reduction in services, and to explore opportunities to progress with the idea.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Waste, Procurement and Special Projects reported that Cllr Tyndall had been involved with a Task and Finish group for the Scrutiny Committee which had been successful. The council had identified some opportunities to bring in income and the Scrutiny Committee had recommended that Cabinet approve the recommendations in the report. An action plan would be required, and Cabinet Members were requested to give early sight of the action plan to the Scrutiny Committee, along with feedback.</p>
Decision taken	That Cabinet approves the Isle of Wight Council Commercial Strategy contained at Appendix 1 of the report and the accompanying rationale for the strategy set out in Appendix 2 of the report.
Options considered and rejected	Option 2: Not to approve the Isle of Wight Council Commercial Strategy contained at Appendix 1 and to prepare an alternative strategy.

Agenda Item	<u>Commercial Trading Company</u>
Decision reference	36 (19/20)
	The Cabinet Member for Resources presented the report, which was seen as another 'tool in the box' and the first step to achieving the aim set out in the Commercial Strategy. There had been a loss of government grant and additional financial pressure within Adult

	<p>Social Care and Looked After Children. The recommendation sought to explore the setting up of a trading company, as had been successfully done by the council in Norfolk, as a joint venture. It was hoped that the council could learn from Norfolk's experience. Other Cabinet Members were in full support of the proposals, having spoken to people from other local authorities where a similar arrangement was working well. Investigations were underway and a further report would come back to Cabinet at a later date.</p>
Decision taken	To explore the potential to enter into a joint venture with another local authority or allied public sector organisation.
Options considered and rejected	Option 1: To explore the potential to create a wholly owned Isle of Wight Council trading company.
Agenda Item	<u>Cabinet Member Announcements</u>
Decision reference	37 (19/20)
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Business Development reported that Ryde Town Council had agreed to submit an Expression of Interest to the Heritage Horizons Fund to purchase and restore Ryde Theatre.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport reported that the Newport traffic plan had commenced, with utility work being undertaken in Forest Road. Initial problems had been dealt with swiftly by Island Roads.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs reported that it had been a year since the council had signed the Mental Health Time to Change pledge. An action plan had been produced and 47 staff members had been trained as mental health first-aiders.</p> <p>Adult Social care staff had been invited to give a presentation at a conference in Bournemouth during November 2019 to share examples of best practice in the council, including the Living Well scheme.</p> <p>With regard to housing needs, the number of rough sleepers had reduced by 45% since 2018. A winter 'wet' shelter was to be provided in Newport as part of a homeless shelter where people would be directed to the right help for problems with mental health, and drug and alcohol addiction.</p>

	<p>For the second month running, there had been no children living in bed and breakfast accommodation for more than six weeks. The aim was for no children to be in bed and breakfast at all.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Resources reported on the current situation with the council's finances and the need to make £4.5 million of savings whilst balancing the budget. The emphasis was on generating more income. Due to many uncertainties with funding the proposals may not be revealed until early 2020.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing pointed out that Bembridge had one of the best housing schemes in Sycamore Gardens, which was seen as an ideal model. He had spoken with Homes England at a recent conference and discussed the possibility of them assisting the council with taking on land not currently owned by the council.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills reported that there were many heritage and culture providers on the island. A conference was to be held locally with national speakers attending, along with representatives from local schools, colleges and heritage and cultural organisations.</p> <p>The Cabinet Members for Waste, Procurement and Special Projects reported that the Forest Park treatment plant had passed its 30-day trial and could start operating. Further work to generate energy from waste was expected to be completed by the spring of 2020.</p> <p>An additional waste truck had been purchased to reduce the waiting list for the green waste subscription scheme. A direct debit scheme was being investigated to avoid customers having to re-subscribe each year.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Environment and Heritage reported that the coastal path was progressing. There was to be a briefing from Natural England on Tuesday 15th October. There were currently no rights of way in East Cowes, and it was hoped that agreement could be reached with landowners for access over their land to create a true coastal path.</p>
Agenda Item	Forward Plan
Decision reference	38 (19/20)
Summary of Discussion	<p>Consideration was given to the Forward Plan.</p> <p>Items due for November Cabinet were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement Strategy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Public Health Report • Cycling Tour Series • Housing Strategy • Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy <p>Delegated Decisions to be taken were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award of Grounds Maintenance Contract • Consultation on Public Spaces Protection Orders • Freshwater Traffic Regulation Order
Agenda Item	<u>Members' Questions</u>
Decision Reference	39 (19/20)
Summary of discussion	<p>Cllr Tyndall asked how the council would help the CCG to address the issues that would be caused by the closure in 2020 of the doctors' surgery in Brading, in particular the elderly and single parent families who would face difficulty in travelling elsewhere. The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs would discuss the matter at the Local Care Board who were aware of the national shortage of GPs and would discuss how GPs could be encouraged to come to the island to work. The Chief Executive had met with health colleagues and further meetings were due. Feedback would be reported to the Local Care Board and the Cabinet.</p> <p>Cllr Love had heard from Healthwatch that young people attending A & E at the hospital who were suicidal had not been given appropriate help and advice due to the lack of specialists available. CAMHS did not provide 24-hour cover. Cllr Love asked whether the council would look into this. The Chief Executive undertook to follow this up. There had already been a meeting with the Youth Trust who would be working together with the council. The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs would arrange an urgent meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Andre added that the Youth Trust had launched a schools' charter and there was some good work being undertaken for early intervention. Schools were being urged to sign up to the charter.</p>