



# Record of decision

**THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS WERE TAKEN BY THE CABINET ON  
[THURSDAY, 9 JULY 2020](#)**

**THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THESE DECISIONS EXPIRES AT 5.00 PM ON  
 MONDAY, 20 JULY 2020**

Members of the Cabinet who were present

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

Members also present (non-voting)

Cllrs Geoff Brodie, Andrew Garratt, Michael Lilley

Confirmed as a true record of decisions taken

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**Leader of the Council**

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b>
<b>Decision reference</b>	<b>06 (20/21)</b>
Decision Taken	That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2020 be agreed.
Questions / Amendments	None

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>
Decision reference	<b>07 (20/21)</b>

	None declared at this stage.
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Public Question Time</b>
Decision reference	<b>08 (20/21)</b>
Summary of Discussion	A question was asked by Sarah Hilton regarding Personal Care Budgets (PQ20/20).  The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs provided a response.

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Chairman's Announcements</b>
Decision reference	<b>09 (20/21)</b>
Summary of Discussion	The Chairman had no specific announcements to make but expressed thanks to those involved in the initial launch of the Grand Tour, a precursor to the Tour of Britain which was to be held on the island in 2022.

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Isle of Wight Outbreak Control Plan</b>
Decision reference	<b>10 (20/21)</b>
Summary of Discussion	The Plan had already passed through several Committees and members had spent considerable time looking at it. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had found the plan fit for purpose and had been fully supportive of it.
Decision taken	That Cabinet; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorses the steps taken so far to establish a Local Outbreak Control Plan. This plan will be subject to regular update and review under the direction of the Director of Public Health and the Isle of Wight Covid-19 Health Protection Board.</li> <li>• Approves the establishment of a Local Outbreak Engagement Board for the Isle of Wight and the proposed Terms of Reference.</li> <li>• Approves the establishment of a Covid-19 Health Protection Board and the proposed Terms of Reference</li> </ul> Delegates to the Director of Public Health the authority to allocate the funding allocated to the Council in accordance with the Local

	<p>Authority Covid-19 Test and Trace Service Support Grant Determination, and the Council's existing financial regulations, the Constitution and departmental scheme of delegation, including consultation with the Chief Executive where appropriate.</p>
<p>Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with</p>	<p>The Government has recently launched the Test and Trace service, which is a central part of the government's Covid-19 Recovery Strategy. The primary objectives of the Test and Trace service are to control the Covid-19 rate of reproduction, reduce the spread of infection and save lives, and in doing so help to return life to normal as soon as possible, for as many people as possible, in a way that is safe, protects our health and care systems and releases the economy.</p> <p>Achieving these objectives will require a co-ordinated effort from local and national government, the NHS, Public Health England, businesses and employers, voluntary organisations and other community partners, and the public. Local planning and response are an essential part of the Test and Trace service, and the council has a central role to play in the identification and management of infection as the authority with responsibility for public health through the statutory Director of Public Health.</p>
<p>Options considered and rejected</p>	<p>None</p>

Agenda Item	<b>East Cowes Waterfront Site Acquisition</b>
Decision reference	<b>11 (20/21)</b>
Summary of Discussion	<p>The site made up of four parcels of land including Venture Quays (the iconic Union Jack building) had been the subject of negotiation with Homes England since 2019. The negotiations were completed in March 2020. The impact of COVID 19 had changed the financial position of the council and this presented potential risks to the acquisition which had to be taken into account when considering whether to approve the recommendation.</p> <p>Members had read the report and considered the contents. The Chairman was aware how difficult negotiations had been to secure the agreed price of circa £1million. The purchase was supported by the Island’s MP and it was believed to be in the best interest of the Island’s community, now and in the long term.</p> <p>Having completed a review of the council’s overall financial position as a result of the impact of COVID19, including support from government and expenditure necessary to keep the Island safe, the Chairman was satisfied the acquisition, subject to final contractual agreement, represented significant financial and social value for the Island.</p> <p>The Council remained financially viable and subject to terms being agreed the Chairman believed the purchase should proceed in order to save jobs and develop opportunities for housing and business development in marine manufacturing.</p> <p>The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had recommended the purchase should proceed as there was a strong case to move forward.</p> <p>The Cabinet member for Regeneration and Business Development explained that the purchase was not to be funded from the council’s commercial investment fund as it was a job retention scheme and that some housing had to be built to enable Homes England to sell it to the Council. He recommended that the purchase should proceed subject to a secure lease with the tenant of Venture Quays and financial advice from the council’s Director of Finance.</p> <p>Several other members spoke in support of the purchase. Although additional funding would be required this was seen as an essential site and the immediate impacts of the pandemic should not deter the council from making good long-term investments which would pay dividends in the future.</p>

Decision taken	To delegate to the leader and Cabinet member for business development and regeneration the decision to proceed with the purchase of the East Cowes Waterfront sites shown in Appendix 1; subject to consideration of the final advice of the director of finance (section 151 officer) regarding the overall level of financial risk to the council.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	The acquisition of the East Cowes Waterfront sites (including Venture Quays) shown in Appendix 1 may secure the marine tenant's occupation, subject to agreeing a satisfactory lease, that does not significantly increase the council's financial risk now or in the immediate future. However, it will also give the council control of a key landmark site which could benefit the community of East Cowes and the Island for the long term. The acquisition will also allow the council the opportunity to develop a viable, variant housing scheme to the current planning permission on Albany and Maresfield sites to include, policy compliant, 35 per cent affordable housing and bring forward the Barracks building and adjoining land as part of the further public realm regeneration of East Cowes.
Options considered and rejected	<p>Option 1: To proceed with the acquisition of the East Cowes Waterfront sites shown in Appendix 1 only once support from government for the acquisition costs is confirmed.</p> <p>Option 3: Not to proceed with the acquisition of the East Cowes Waterfront sites shown in Appendix 1.</p> <p>Option 4: To delay any decision to the acquire the East Cowes Waterfront sites shown in Appendix 1 until such time as the council's financial position in responding to the impacts of the coronavirus is much more certain.</p>
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Cabinet Member Announcements</b>
<b>Decision reference</b>	<b>12 (20/21)</b>
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs reported that as a result of COVID 19 there had been an increase in new referrals, and a rise in safeguarding referrals was expected.</p> <p>There were concerns that the additional funding from government for NHS for care on discharge from hospital would soon cease. People discharged for assessment from hospital may not have been mobilised in normal way and it was possible some would not be able to return home, leading to a rise in the number of people the council would need to fund in care homes.</p>

Homeless people may not be able to return to where they were before the pandemic. Officers were working through strategies to address the issues, working with the Integrated Care Partnership where necessary to secure agreement with regard to embedding early help for individuals.

The council was bidding for additional money for ongoing costs for emergency housing accommodation.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills reported that staff had worked above and beyond to deliver on statutory matters. Schools had adapted well and staff had worked hard to get schools ready for children to return.

The Home to School Transport procurement process was now in the final stage, with the contract due to be awarded on 21 July, to commence in September 2020. It was hoped this would deliver a saving for the council along with other benefits such as smart ticketing, CCTV and telematics systems.

The Cabinet Member for Procurement, Waste and Special Projects reported that it had been a good year for the delivery of waste services. The green garden waste user target had been reached, the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) had reopened via a booking system, doorstep collections had continued throughout the pandemic.

The council had been shortlisted for two recycling awards; Campaign of the Year for the communications campaign to improve recycling at holiday lets, and Public/Private Sector Category for Partnership Excellence between the council and Amey for the first twin stream mechanical treatment plant in the UK. The awards ceremony would be held in London in December 2020.

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Heritage reported that playgrounds would be opening from 11 July. A poster campaign social media video with guidance on staying safe had been produced. Libraries were not fully open as yet but books could now be returned with no late fees. An order and collect service was available and home delivery service would follow soon.

Museums - Dinosaur Isle and Newport Roman Villa would reopen in a phased manner in the near future.

The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport reported that the Floating Bridge was about to undergo routine maintenance. This work had been delayed as the floating bridge was needed to get people across to East Cowes whilst the Red Jet had not been running during lockdown. Contractors would be working longer hours to prevent delays longer than necessary.

	<p>St Mary's junction works were slightly ahead of schedule.</p> <p>The work on the parking review which had been planned but had been suspended during lockdown was now to continue to public consultation</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Digital Transformation and Community Safety reported that officers were now moving back to normal work. Licensing and Environmental Health had been carrying out online advice sessions for businesses for coming out of restrictions and getting back to normal, which was also available on the council's website.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing had been holding discussions with senior Planning Officers regarding how COVID-19 had impacted on the future for businesses and residents in respect of planning. There would be a full review of the local plan to take the impacts into account. The Island Plan consultation scheduled for November 2020 would be delayed to a future date.</p> <p>The Cabinet member for Regeneration and Business Development reported that the Regeneration team had submitted a range of regeneration proposals which were looking positive, with a decision expected by the end of July.</p> <p>A Planning application was imminent for the partnership housing development at Branstone which may be delivered by Vectis Housing.</p> <p>Isle of Wight commerce and businesses would benefit greatly if the Fast Cat were to restart, if Wightlink were to step up and do their bit for the Island's economy.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Resources reported that work had been done with the administration of government money for rate relief. The council usually received £38 million a year from business rates. The tourism, leisure and hospitality sectors had benefitted. £61 million of funding had been allocated and the council had paid grants of £10k and £25K to eligible businesses. Over £48 million of this had been spent, including discretionary funding. This had been well taken up. There was a small amount left in the fund. Staff had done a good job in getting the grants out more quickly than many other councils. Members had looked at deferring and reprioritising some expenditure. Government had just announced a scheme which would broadly give 75% compensation for loss of income to the council from its income-generating areas.</p>
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Members' Question Time</b>
<b>Decision Reference</b>	<b>13 (20/21)</b>

Summary of discussion	<p>Cllr Michael Lilley submitted a written question regarding the Nicholson Road, Ryde, site.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Resources provided a response (MQ 20/20)</p>
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Forward Plan</b>
<b>Decision reference</b>	<b>14 (20/21)</b>
	<p>Items for consideration at Full Council on 15 July were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reallocation of Committee Seats</li> <li>• Appointment of Assistant Director of Corporate Services</li> <li>• New Combined Fire Authority precept</li> </ul>