

Isle of Wight Council Record of Decisions made at a meeting of the Cabinet on Thursday, 9 February 2023

Published:

The following decisions were made by the Cabinet at its meeting on **THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2023**. These decisions will come into force on **TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2023**. A decision by the Cabinet may be called-in (in accordance with Part 3 Section 9 of the Council's Constitution) by **MONDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2023**. Should you have any queries about any decision that has been made, contact should be made in the first instance to Democratic Services at democratic.services@iow.gov.uk. Any declaration of interest made by any member of the Cabinet is shown below.

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
1	<p>Minutes</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2023 be approved.</p>			
5a	<p>Determination of School Admission Arrangements for 2024/25</p> <p>That Cabinet approves the 2024/2025 school admissions arrangements.</p>	The recommendation in this report directly links to the Corporate Plan 2021-25 priority which is to work with local communities to maintain and ensure appropriate local school provision.	None	Director of Children's Services
6a	<p>The Isle of Wight Council (Various Streets, Ventnor) (Traffic Regulation) Order No 1 2022</p>	The proposed new regulations are in line with the IoWC's Corporate Plan 2021 – 2025 and more specifically	<u>Option 1</u> : To approve the proposed restrictions that are subject to this report in relation to The Isle of Wight	Director of Neighbourhoods

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>Cabinet approves the proposed restrictions that are subject to this report in relation to The Isle of Wight Council (Various Streets, Ventnor) (Traffic Regulation) Order No 1 2022; The Isle of Wight Council (Esplanade, Ventnor) (Parking Places) Order No 1 2022; The Isle of Wight Council (Designated Loading Bays) Order No 1 2022 with amendment - to abandon the proposals in some locations, and to implement the rest of the restrictions.</p> <p>To abandon proposals for Scheme 2 – St Catherine’s Street, Ventnor and not proceed with any TRO for this road.</p> <p>That Scheme 1 – Albert Street, Ventnor, be deferred to a later date pending further detailed investigation and research on the proposal.</p> <p>That Scheme 4 – Park Avenue, Ventnor, be deferred until a later date pending further detailed investigation and research on the proposal.</p>	<p>with its vision and clear aim to work together openly and with our communities to support and sustain our economy, environment and people.</p>	<p>Council (Various Streets, Ventnor) (Traffic Regulation) Order No 1 2022; The Isle of Wight Council (Esplanade, Ventnor) (Parking Places) Order No 1 2022; The Isle of Wight Council (Designated Loading Bays) Order No 1 2022 as proposed.</p> <p><u>Option 2:</u> Not to approve the restrictions that are subject to this report in relation to The Isle of Wight Council (Various Streets, Ventnor) (Traffic Regulation) Order No 1 2022; The Isle of Wight Council (Esplanade, Ventnor) (Parking Places) Order No 1 2022; The Isle of Wight Council (Designated Loading Bays) Order No 1 2022, and to abandon the proposal.</p>	
7a	<p>To approve the terms of a new land hire agreement with IW Festival Ltd for the staging of the IW Festival at Seaclose Park.</p> <p>To agree the terms set out in the report for a new five (5) year agreement with Isle of Wight Festival Ltd. to stage the IW Festival for the period 2023-2027 inclusive and to instruct the</p>	<p>This supports the Regeneration Strategy, the Climate and Environment Strategy and the Corporate Plan.</p>	<p>Option 2 - To seek different terms and instruct the Director of Regeneration in liaison with the Cabinet member for Levelling Up, Regeneration and Business Development to negotiate further with IW Festival and report back to a future Cabinet meeting.</p>	<p>Assistant Director of Regeneration (Economic Development, Planning & Assets)</p>

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	Director of Regeneration in liaison with the Leader of the Isle of Wight Council to conclude the details of the agreement, including provision to terminate where necessary.		Option 3 - Not to conclude a new land hire agreement.	
8a	<p>Quarterly Performance Monitoring Report Q3 2022-23</p> <p>That Cabinet approves the Performance and Finance Report for the Quarter ended 31 December 2022, and the priority report detail as set out in appendices 1-10, together with the council's financial position as set out in appendices 11-12.</p>	Ongoing management and monitoring of performance data, the council's strategic risk profile and financial situation is required to support the successful delivery of council priorities. As such, this report provides the Cabinet (and subsequently the council's scrutiny function) with the necessary information to record achievements, challenge areas of underperformance and to account for it to the wider community.	Cabinet does not approve the Performance and Finance Report – Quarter ended 31 December 2022 and the priority report detail as set out in appendices 1-10 and the financial information set out in appendices 11 to 12	Director of Corporate Services
8b	<p>2023/24 Discretionary Rate Relief Schemes</p> <p>That Cabinet recommends to Full Council to adopt the discretionary rate relief schemes as outlined in the Autumn statement 2022 and to ensure that the reliefs are applied to eligible accounts for the financial year 2023/24.</p> <p>That delegated authority be granted to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance, Transformational Change and Corporate Resources to agree further legislative changes</p>	<p>The core strengths of the Island economy remain as a platform for recovery and restoring Island business growth following the pandemic, war on Ukraine, and subsequent cost of living crisis, as well as existing businesses expanding on the Island to create jobs and wealth for the Island's community as it looks to recover.</p> <p>Implementing relief provided in legislation will deliver additional</p>	Option 2: That Cabinet does not adopt the discretionary rate relief schemes as outlined in the Autumn Statement 2022.	Director of Corporate Services

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	to the discretionary rates relief scheme.	support to local business to assist with reduction of business rates.		
8c	<p>Discretionary Rates Relief – Heat Network Rates Relief Scheme</p> <p>That Cabinet adopt Option (a) as detailed below in that the heat networks rates relief scheme be implemented from 1 April 2022 and 100% relief is granted to those properties identified by the Valuation Office as using low carbon networks on the Island.</p>	<p>Providing support to business who fall within the heat networks criteria supports the council’s “Mission Zero” climate change strategy and supports those business financially with relief supporting this initiative.</p> <p>The relief provided will support qualifying local businesses which may in turn support those residents employed by the business’, and also support low carbon heat if used within building new homes.</p>	Option b) - That this change is not implemented from 2022, and the Council waits until 2023 for the change to be made by legislation.	Director of Corporate Services
8d	<p>Council Tax Support Grant</p> <p>That the Cabinet adopt the draft Council Tax Support Grant scheme as attached in Appendix 1 to provide additional support to eligible Local Council Tax Support claimants as at 1 April 2023.</p> <p>That a discretionary scheme is developed which awards £25 to newly eligible LCTS claimants after 1 April 2023 and to delegate authority to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance, Transformational Change and Corporate Resources to agree further details of the discretionary scheme.</p>	The Council intends to take full advantage of powers within legislation to provide additional support to Island residents and reduce poverty. This scheme provides additional financial support to eligible residents in receipt of Local Council Tax Support who may be vulnerable and are on low incomes to assist with the financial pressure of council tax increases	<p>Option B: That Cabinet adopt the statutory Council Tax Support Grants scheme to provide additional support to eligible Local Council Tax Support claimants as at 1 April 2023</p> <p>That a discretionary scheme is adopted which distributes any remaining funds amongst the same group of claimants.</p> <p>Option C: That Cabinet adopt the statutory Council Tax Support Grants scheme and a different discretionary scheme to support eligible Local Council Tax</p>	Director of Corporate Services

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
			<p>Support claimants as at 1 April 2023.</p> <p>That a discretionary scheme is developed based on an application process for residents to apply for a payment if they are experiencing exceptional financial hardship.</p>	
8e	<p>Budget and Council Tax Setting 2023-2024 and Future Years' Forecasts</p> <p>1. That the Cabinet endorse the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) The recommendations to the Council set out below.</p> <p>2. It is recommended that the Council approve the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) The revised Revenue Budget for the financial year 2022/23 and the Revenue Budget for the financial year 2023/24 as set out in the General Fund Summary (Appendix 1) which includes:</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">(i) Additional spending in Adult Social Care of £7.6m and Children's Services of £4.3m</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">(ii) No Revenue Contribution to Capital in 2022/23 or 2023/24</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">(iii) The Covid Contingency estimated at £4.2m, to guard against continuing and legacy risks</p>	<p>The Council's Budget for 2022/23 and 2023/24, the level of Council Tax and the Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2027/28 represent the Council's detailed plan for 2023/24 and set the direction for the medium term. They are set within the context of the Council's approved Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).</p>	<p>In respect of the Revenue Budget 2023/24:</p> <p>Reduce the proposed increase in Council Tax and increase the level of savings noting that every 1% reduction in Council Tax will require an increase in savings of £936,300</p> <p>Increase the use of General Reserves used in 2023/24 and reduce the level of savings accordingly, acknowledging that:</p> <p>In doing so, the level of savings in 2024/25 and future years will increase providing an uneven profile of savings, which is contrary to the approved MTFS, and the Council's financial resilience will reduce at a time of unprecedented inflationary volatility, service demands arising from the rising cost of living and uncertainty for the future of Local Government funding</p> <p>The minimum level of Reserves to</p>	<p>Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer</p>

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	<p>(b) Any variation arising from the Local Government Finance Settlement 2023/24 or any further savings made in 2022/23 arising at the year-end (after allowing for specific carry forward requests) be transferred to the Revenue Reserve for Capital, Covid Contingency, Transformation Reserve, and General Reserves with the level of each transfer to be determined by the S.151 Officer.</p> <p>(c) That the level of Council Tax be increased by 2.99% for general purposes in accordance with the referendum threshold^[4] for 2023/24 announced by Government (as calculated in Appendix 2)</p> <p>(d) That the level of Council Tax be increased by a further 2.0% beyond the referendum threshold (as calculated in Appendix 2) to take advantage of the flexibility offered by Government to implement a "Social Care Precept"; and that in accordance with the conditions of that flexibility, the full amount of the associated sum generated of £1,872,500 is passported direct to Adult Social Care</p> <p>(e) That the amounts set out in Appendix 2 be now calculated by the Council for the financial year 2023/24 in accordance with Section 31 and Sections 34 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992</p> <p>(f) The S.151 Officer be given delegated authority to implement any variation to the</p>		<p>be maintained will need to be increased in response to the increase in financial risk</p> <p>In respect of the Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2027/28 as set out in Appendix 5:</p> <p>Amend the proposed "New Start" Capital Schemes by reducing / deleting proposed Capital Schemes and replacing with alternative Capital Schemes of equivalent value</p> <p>Amend the proposed "New Start" Capital Schemes by reducing / deleting Capital Schemes and retaining the amount of Corporate Capital resources available for future Capital Programmes</p> <p>Amend the proposed "New Start" Capital Schemes by reducing / deleting Capital Schemes and reducing the funding provided from Corporate Reserves and retaining those funds in General Reserves to provide additional financial resilience to the Council.</p>	

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	<p>overall level of Council Tax arising from the final notification of the Hampshire Police & Crime Commissioner, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Authority and Parish and Town Council precepts, and amend the calculations set out in Appendix 2 accordingly</p> <p>(g) The savings proposals for each Portfolio amounting, in total, to £3.895m for 2023/24 and continuing into future years as set out on the next page:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="237 635 860 1422"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="237 635 389 730">Portfolio</th> <th data-bbox="389 635 595 730">Controllable Budget</th> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="595 635 860 730">Savings Proposal</th> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="237 730 389 799"></td> <td data-bbox="389 730 595 799">£</td> <td data-bbox="595 730 766 799">£</td> <td data-bbox="766 730 860 799">%</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="237 799 389 986">Adult Social Care & Public Health*</td> <td data-bbox="389 799 595 986">54,438,981</td> <td data-bbox="595 799 766 986">1,243,500</td> <td data-bbox="766 799 860 986">2.3 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="237 986 389 1235">Children's Services, Education & Lifelong Skills*</td> <td data-bbox="389 986 595 1235">28,695,978</td> <td data-bbox="595 986 766 1235">299,000</td> <td data-bbox="766 986 860 1235">1.0 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="237 1235 389 1422">Climate, Environment, Heritage, HR, Legal &</td> <td data-bbox="389 1235 595 1422">7,812,210</td> <td data-bbox="595 1235 766 1422">128,000</td> <td data-bbox="766 1235 860 1422">1.6 %</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Portfolio	Controllable Budget	Savings Proposal			£	£	%	Adult Social Care & Public Health*	54,438,981	1,243,500	2.3 %	Children's Services, Education & Lifelong Skills*	28,695,978	299,000	1.0 %	Climate, Environment, Heritage, HR, Legal &	7,812,210	128,000	1.6 %			
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	<p>2024/25 to 2026/27 and that this be incorporated into Service Business Plans</p> <p>(i) The minimum level of Revenue Balances as at 31 March 2024, predicated on the approval of £3.895m savings in 2023/24 and the retention of the Covid Contingency of £4.2m, be set at £8.0m to reflect the known and expected budget and financial risks to the Council</p> <p>(j) Members have regard for the "Statement of the Section 151 Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003"</p> <p>(k) The Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2027/28 set out in Appendix 5 which includes all additions, deletions and amendments for slippage and re-phasing</p> <p>(l) The new Capital Investment Proposals ("New Starts") - 2023/24 set out in Appendix 4 be reflected within the recommended Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2027/28 and be funded from the available Capital Resources</p> <p>(m) The allocation of Disabled Facilities Grants be made to the Better Care Fund, and reflected within the recommended Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2027/28</p> <p>(n) The S.151 Officer be given delegated authority to determine how each source of finance is used to fund the overall Capital Programme and to alter the overall mix of</p>			

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	<p>financing, as necessary, to maximise the flexibility of capital resources used and minimise the ongoing costs of borrowing to the Council</p> <p>(o) That the S.151 Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council be given delegated authority to release capital resources held back for any contingent items that might arise, and also for any match funding requirements that may be required of the Council in order to secure additional external capital funding (e.g. bids for funding from Government or any other external source).</p> <p>3. It is recommended that the Council note the following in respect of the Council's Budget:</p> <p>(a) The Revenue Budget 2023/24 as set out in Appendix 1 has been prepared on the basis of a 4.99% increase in Council Tax, any reduction from the overall 4.99% Council Tax increase proposed will require additional savings of £936,300 for each 1% reduction in order for the Budget 2023/24 to be approved</p> <p>(b) The Revenue Forecasts for 2024/25 onwards as set out in the section entitled "<u>Revenue Forecasts 2024/25 to 2026/27</u>" and Appendix 1</p> <p>(c) The estimated Savings Requirement of £6.0m for the three year period 2024/25 to 2026/27, for financial and service planning</p>			

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	<p>purposes, be phased as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="237 292 842 555"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="237 292 407 432">Financial Year</th> <th data-bbox="407 292 633 432">In Year Savings Requirement £m</th> <th data-bbox="633 292 842 432">Cumulative Saving £m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="237 432 407 472">2024/25</td> <td data-bbox="407 432 633 472">2.0</td> <td data-bbox="633 432 842 472">2.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="237 472 407 512">2025/26</td> <td data-bbox="407 472 633 512">2.0</td> <td data-bbox="633 472 842 512">4.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="237 512 407 555">2026/27</td> <td data-bbox="407 512 633 555">2.0</td> <td data-bbox="633 512 842 555">6.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(d) The Transformation Reserve held to fund the upfront costs associated with Spend to Save Schemes and Invest to Save Schemes holds a very modest uncommitted balance of £3.2m and will only be replenished from contributions from the Revenue Budget and an approval to the transfer of any further savings at year end</p> <p>(e) Should the Council elect to reduce the level of savings below £3.895m in 2023/24 (and £2.0m p.a. thereafter), the Council's financial risk will increase and therefore the minimum level of General Reserves held will also need to increase in order to maintain the Council's financial resilience</p> <p>(f) The Council Tax base for the financial year 2023/24 will be 54,087.0 [item T in the formula in Section 31 B(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")].</p> <p>(g) The Council Tax element of the Collection</p>	Financial Year	In Year Savings Requirement £m	Cumulative Saving £m	2024/25	2.0	2.0	2025/26	2.0	4.0	2026/27	2.0	6.0			
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	<p>Fund for 2022/23 is estimated to be in deficit by £848,700* which is shared between the Isle of Wight Council (84.7%) and the Police & Crime Commissioner (11.6%) and the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Authority (3.7%)</p> <p>(h) The Business Rate element of the Collection Fund for 2022/23 is estimated to be in deficit by £334,500 of which is shared between the Isle of Wight Council (49%), the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Authority (1%) and the Government (50%)</p> <p>(i) The Retained Business Rate income^[5] for 2023/24 based on the estimated Business Rate element of the Collection Fund deficit as at March 2023, the Non Domestic Rates poundage for 2023/24 and estimated rateable values for 2023/24 has been set at £41,958,105.</p> <p>*Includes a deficit of £578,900 which under regulation was allowed to be spread over 3 years and is shared on a different basis</p> <p>[5] Includes Retained Business Rates of £16,994,458, "Top Up" of £12,028,784, S.31 Grants of £13,098,779 a Collection Fund deficit of £163,916</p>			