

Agenda

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date	WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2023
Time	6.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Members of the committee	All Members of the council
	Democratic Services Officer: Marie Bartlett democratic.services@iow.gov.uk

1. **Minutes** (Pages 7 - 14)

To confirm as a true record the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2023.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To invite Members to declare any interest they might have in the matters on the agenda.

3. **Public Question Time - Maximum 15 Minutes for Written Questions and 15 Minutes for Oral Questions**

Questions may be asked without notice but to guarantee a full reply at the meeting, a question must be put including the name and address of the questioner by delivery in writing or by electronic mail to Democratic Services at democratic.services@iow.gov.uk, no later than two clear working days before the start of the meeting. Normally, Full Council is held on a Wednesday, therefore the deadline for written questions will be Friday, 10 November 2023.



Details of this and other Council committee meetings can be viewed on the Isle of Wight Council's [website](#). This information may be available in alternative formats on request. Please note the meeting will be audio recorded and the recording will be placed on the website (except any part of the meeting from which the press and public are excluded). Young people are welcome to attend Council meetings however parents/carers should be aware that the public gallery is not a supervised area.

4. **Chairman's Official Announcements**

To receive the Chairman's official announcements.

5. **Leaders Update Report (20 minutes)** (Pages 15 - 16)

- a) To receive the Leader's update report (5 minutes maximum).
- b) Members questions on the Leader's update report (15 minutes maximum).

6. **Report of the Monitoring Officer**

- (a) Appointments to Vacancies on Bodies (Pages 17 - 22)

7. **Report of the Leader**

- (a) Executive Appointments (for noting) (Pages 23 - 26)

8. **Motions Submitted under Part 4A, Procedure Rule 9 of the Council's Constitution**

- (a) By Councillor M Lilley

IW Council notes that:

- In the 1995 Pensions Act, the Government increased State Pension age for women from 60 to 65, with a further increase to 66 in the 2011 Pensions Act.
- The change was not properly communicated to 3.8m women born in the 1950s until 2012, giving some only one year's notice of a six-year increase in their anticipated retirement age. There are approximately 10,950 affected women on the IOW, which is 7.82% of the population.
- The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) has found that the Department for Work and Pensions was guilty of maladministration in its handling of the State Pension Age increase for women born in the 1950s.
- The All-Party Parliamentary Group on State Pension Inequality for Women has concluded that "the impact of DWP maladministration on 1950s-born women has been as devastating as it is widespread. The APPG believes that the case for category 6 injustice is overwhelming and clear. Women have had their emotional, physical, and mental circumstances totally obliterated by a lack of reasonable notice."
- Research commissioned by campaign group WASPI has found that by the end of 2022, more than 220,000 1950s born women have died waiting for justice since the WASPI campaign began in 2015. This includes women dying on the Island.
- WASPI's figures show that over the course of the two-year COVID pandemic, 1 in 10 women who died was affected by these uncommunicated changes and lost both their state pension income and the opportunity to make alternative retirement plans.

- Despite the Ombudsman's findings and the rapid death rate of those affected, the government is choosing to wait for further reports before taking any action.

IW Council resolves to highlight that this injustice has not only had a profound effect on the individuals involved but on the wider community on the Isle of Wight and on Isle of Wight Council, not least because:

- Women who would have looked after older relatives or partners are unable to afford to do so, with a knock-on impact on local social care on the Isle of Wight
- Women who would have retired and engaged in caring responsibilities for grandchildren are having to continue working, increasing the childcare burden on the state locally.
- Women who have been left in poverty are struggling to meet their housing costs, with a knock-on impact on local housing stock.
- There is a broader impact on voluntary services of all kinds locally, which are missing out on able, active volunteers who would otherwise have been able to retire from full-time work as planned.
- Our local economy is negatively affected by the reduced spending power and disposable income the uncommunicated State Pension Age changes has brought about among Island women born in the 1950s.

IW Council supports:

- The conclusion of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on State Pension Inequality that women born in the 1950s have suffered a gross injustice, affecting their emotional, physical and mental circumstances in addition to causing financial hardship.
- A swift resolution to this ongoing injustice before more and more Island women die, waiting for compensation.
- The WASPI Campaign for an immediate one-off compensation payment of between £11,666 and £20,000 to those affected, with the most going to women who were given the shortest notice of the longest increase in their state pension age.

IW Council resolves:

- The Leader of the Council to write to local the local Member of Parliament, and to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to outline the effects of the injustice to 1950s women on the community on the Isle of Wight and to seek their support for an immediate compensation package.

(b) By Councillor N Stuart

Council believes that Isle of Wight residents are unfairly and unequally treated by the UK government compared to mainland residents.

Council recognises that the Islands Forum provides a chance to raise these concerns but believes that it is insufficient to ensure that the Isle of Wight gets the fair treatment it deserves.

Council believes a legislative solution would ensure that the Isle of Wight secures equitable treatment that is long-lasting. Such legislation should include, but not limited to, a system to deliver.

1. Fair funding to Isle of Wight Council and other public services
2. Fair approaches for cross-Solent services by way of regulation, service obligation and government subsidy
3. Equal health services on the Island that maximises opportunities for local treatment and minimises the need for residents to travel to the mainland.

The Council will take all steps necessary to pursue central Government to deliver a fair outcome for the Island.

(c) By Councillor I Dore

That Full Council agrees to a more robust commitment to the Isle of Wight Armed Forces Community, and as part of the current budget setting process, councillors consider increasing the financial contribution to the Isle of Wight Armed Forces Day event. This consideration is to be included in any proposed budget they put before full council.

By making this commitment, Full Council is reaffirming its pledge as a signatory of the Armed Forces Covenant, The Isle of Wight Civil Military Partnership, The Solent Armed Forces Covenant Partnership Board, and the Isle of Wight Armed Forces Community as a whole.

9. Member Questions to the Leader and to any other Cabinet Member (30 minutes)

To receive a reply to a question asked during Members' Question Time to the Leader or Cabinet Member, a question must be submitted in writing or by electronic mail to Democratic Services no later than 5pm on Thursday, 9 November 2023. A question may be asked at the meeting without prior notice but in these circumstances there is no guarantee that a full reply will be given at the meeting.

CHRISTOPHER POTTER
Monitoring Officer
Tuesday, 7 November 2023

Interests

If there is a matter on this agenda which may relate to an interest you or your partner or spouse has or one you have disclosed in your register of interests, you must declare your interest before the matter is discussed or when your interest becomes apparent. If the matter relates to an interest in your register of pecuniary interests then you must take no part in its consideration and you must leave the room for that item. Should you wish to participate as a member of the public to express your views where public speaking is allowed under the Council's normal procedures, then you will need to seek a dispensation to do so. Dispensations are considered by the Monitoring Officer following the submission of a written request. Dispensations may take up to 2 weeks to be granted.

Members are reminded that it is a requirement of the Code of Conduct that they should also keep their written Register of Interests up to date. Any changes to the interests recorded on that form should be made as soon as reasonably practicable, and within 28 days of the change. A change would be necessary if, for example, your employment changes, you move house or acquire any new property or land.

If you require more guidance on the Code of Conduct or are unsure whether you need to record an interest on the written register you should take advice from the Monitoring Officer – Christopher Potter on (01983) 821000, email christopher.potter@iow.gov.uk, or Deputy Monitoring Officer - Justin Thorne on (01983) 821000, email justin.thorne@iow.gov.uk.

Notice of recording

Please note that all meetings that are open to the public and press may be filmed or recorded and/or commented on online by the council or any member of the public or press. However, this activity must not disrupt the meeting, and if it does you will be asked to stop and possibly to leave the meeting. This meeting may also be filmed for live and subsequent broadcast (except any part of the meeting from which the press and public are excluded).

If you wish to record, film or photograph the council meeting or if you believe that being filmed or recorded would pose a risk to the safety of you or others then please speak with the democratic services officer prior to that start of the meeting. Their contact details are on the agenda papers.

If the press and public are excluded for part of a meeting because confidential or exempt information is likely to be disclosed, there is no right to record that part of the meeting. All recording and filming equipment must be removed from the meeting room when the public and press are excluded.

If you require further information please see the council guide to reporting on council meetings which can be found at <http://www.iwight.com/documentlibrary/view/recording-of-proceedings-guidance-note>

All information that is recorded by the council is held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. For further information please contact Democratic Services at democratic.services@iow.gov.uk

Arrangements for Submitting Oral Questions at Meetings of Council and Cabinet:

The front desk “opens” for public wishing to attend the meeting half an hour before the meeting.

In the circumstances that a member of the public wishes to ask an oral question, they should approach the front desk and notify them of their intention. They will be given a form to complete which details their name, town/village of residence, email address and the topic of the question (not the question in full, unless they wish to provide this).

These forms will be numbered in the order they are handed back.

The time for registering questions will be for a 20 minute period (up to 10 minutes prior to the start of the meeting). After that time expires the forms will be collected and given to the Chairman of the meeting.

If time allows after dealing with any written questions, the Chairman will then ask those who have submitted a form to put their question. These will be in the order they were received. As the subject matter is known, the Chairman should be able to indicate which member will reply. If time permits the Chairman may accept further questions.

The option to ask a supplementary question will be at the Chairman’s discretion.

Once the defined period of time allowed for questions has passed (and assuming the Chairman has not extended this) then all remaining oral questions are left unanswered.

No oral question will receive a guaranteed written response, unless the member responding indicates as such.