

Isle of Wight Council Record of Decisions made at a meeting of the Cabinet on Thursday, 8 February 2024

Published:

The following decisions were made by the Cabinet at its meeting on **Thursday, 8 February 2024**. These decisions will come into force on **DATE COME INTO FORCE AFTER CALL IN PERIOD EXPIRES**. A decision by the Cabinet may be called-in (in accordance with Part 3 Section 9 of the Council's Constitution) by **FIELD_CALLIN_EXPIRY**. Enquiries about any decision that has been made 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:
5a	<p>QPMR Q3 - 2023/24</p> <p>That Cabinet noted the Performance Report for the Quarter ended 31 December 2023, and the priority report detail as set out in appendices 1-10.</p>	<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.</p>	<p>Option 1: Cabinet does not approve the Performance Report – Quarter ended 31 December 2023 and the priority report detail as set out in appendices 1-10.</p>	<p>Director of Corporate Services (re-org 2023)</p>
5b	<p>Determination of School Admission Arrangements for 2025/26</p> <p>That Cabinet approves the 2025/2026 admissions arrangements.</p>	<p>As set out within the corporate plan this report demonstrates the Isle of Wight Council's commitment to work with local communities to maintain and ensure appropriate local school</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Director of Children's Services</p>

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
		provision providing the best possible outcomes for children on the Island.		
6a	<p>LEP Integration of functions into Upper Tier Local Authorities</p> <p>To note that subject to meeting certain conditions, the Government is looking to integrate a number of existing LEP functions into UTLAs.</p> <p>To note that to meet the conditions, and to maintain a focus on the Solent area, Isle of Wight Council (IWC) will need to work with Portsmouth City Council (PCC) and Southampton City Council (SCC) to take on these functions through the creation of a new joint UTLA Board.</p> <p>To agree that subject to the 3 Solent UTLA area being recognised by the Government as an area for LEP integration, with appropriate due diligence, IWC should become a Member of Solent Partners, a company limited by guarantee, that is a successor body to the Solent LEP, to help drive economic growth in the sub-region. This agreement to be conditional on PCC and SCC similarly agreeing to become Members of Solent Partners.</p> <p>To agree that IWC should not appoint a Director to the Board of Solent Partners to ensure that there is no conflict of interest with the wider governance needed for the new LEP integration arrangements. IWC, along with the other two</p>	<p>The Government have stated that all core funding for LEPs will cease and that a number of LEP functions will transfer to democratic control. The Government have set criteria for the return of these functions and the recommendations in this report enable an appropriate mechanism to be put in place to achieve the Government's policy requirements.</p> <p>While current guidance is clear that LEPs can continue in a private capacity, the Solent LEP has confirmed that they intend to cease operating as soon as possible after 31st March 2024 and have set up an alternative company, Solent Partners, with aspirations to continue to support the economic development agenda in the Solent. This report therefore notes that assets and resources built up with public money will need to be retained and transferred into the public domain.</p>	<p>Option 2: That the new arrangements be formed on a county wide basis of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (including the PCC and SCC city areas).</p> <p>Option 2 was not supported by the three UTLAs as in their view it ignores the clear Functioning Economic Area (FEA) across the Solent sub region which has consistently been recognised by Government (e.g. the creation of the LEP or the Solent Freeport) and as such the three unitaries are keen to work together to bring about the integration of the LEP functions on a Solent geography that comprises the three unitary authorities.</p>	Chief Executive

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>UTLAs will seek appropriate requirements within the articles of Solent Partners to ensure representatives of all three ULTAs are entitled to observe board meetings.</p> <p>To note the proposed draft governance structure attached as Appendix 1 that shows how IWC should work with partners to achieve our economic growth ambitions which will need to be outlined in an updated Solent 2050 Strategy.</p> <p>To agree that subject of the agreement of all three partners, PCC are confirmed as the Accountable Body for Solent Partners.</p> <p>To agree that any existing LEP funding disaggregated to the three Solent UTLAs can be pooled (subject to agreement with PCC and SCC) for the benefit of economic growth of the Solent region.</p> <p>To agree that IWC, as one of the three UTLAs, will work with partners to develop an agreement on how Solent Partners will deliver economic growth for the functional economic area.</p> <p>That delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive, and the Director of Finance and s151 Officer, acting individually or collectively in consultation with the Leader to agree the final details of the transfer of LEP functions to the UTLAs including future governance arrangements.</p> <p>To agree that IWC should seek to support the</p>			

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>creation of a Solent Economic Partnership, inviting adjacent Districts and Boroughs, Hampshire County Council, and other key public sector stakeholders, to enable Local Authorities leaders and leaders within the business community to have a regular opportunity to discuss and support economic growth in the region.</p>			
7a	<p>District 2 TRO Review - Newport and Carisbrooke</p> <p>That the decision on the proposed parking restrictions in Wellington Road, Newport which are subject to this report in relation to *The Isle of Wight Council (Various Streets, Newport) (Traffic Regulation) Order No 1 2023 is postponed, pending the outcome of the public inquiry.</p> <p>That all other proposed parking restrictions which are subject to this report in relation to *The Isle of Wight Council (Various Streets, Newport) (Traffic Regulation) Order No 1 2023; *The Isle of Wight Council (Residents' Parking Places) Order No 1 2023; * The Isle of Wight Council (Parking Places) Order No 4 2023 are approved as proposed.</p>	<p>The proposed new regulations are in line with the IoWC's Corporate Plan 2021 – 2025 and more specifically 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>To aim to ensure safety for all road users, whilst securing the emergency services' access and the movement of the traffic – by removing the inappropriate parking in order to increase visibility, create passing points, and free up footways.</p>	<p>Option 2: Not to approve the restrictions that are subject to this report in relation to *The Isle of Wight Council (Various Streets, Newport) (Traffic Regulation) Order No 1 2023; *The Isle of Wight Council (Residents' Parking Places) Order No 1 2023; * The Isle of Wight Council (Parking Places) Order No 4 2023, and to abandon the proposal.</p> <p>Option 3: To postpone the decision on the proposals in Wellington Road, Newport and to approve the other proposed restrictions that are subject to this report in relation to *The Isle of Wight Council (Various Streets, Newport) (Traffic Regulation) Order No 1 2023; *The Isle of Wight Council (Residents' Parking Places) Order No 1 2023; * The Isle of Wight Council (Parking Places) Order No 4 2023 with amendment.</p>	<p>Director of Neighbourhoods (re-org 2023)</p>

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
8a	<p>Council Tax Premiums on Second Homes and Empty Properties</p> <p>That Cabinet recommends to Full Council the following:</p> <p>To adopt, commencing the billing period starting 1 April 2024, a council tax premium of 100 per cent for all long-term empty properties as defined by amendments to the Local Government Finance Act 1992 in force on that date:</p> <p>To adopt, commencing the billing period starting 1 April 2025, a council tax premium of 100 per cent for all dwellings occupied periodically as defined by amendments to the Local Government Finance Act 1992 in force on that date (second homes); and</p> <p>That the Draft Council Tax Policy for Second Homes, Long Term Empty Properties and determining discounts for certain dwellings be adopted and that the council's Section 151 Officer delegated authority to amend the council's policy of premiums in line with secondary legislation and/or statutory guidance, as and when published in conjunction with the Revenues and Benefits Managers.</p>	<p>The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 has granted additional powers for councils to implement premiums for empty properties and second homes in order to improve outcomes for local people by means of providing more housing or to generate more income to support local services where empty properties and second homes are retained. It would be remiss of the council not to take advantage of the ability to raise additional revenue for the good of Island residents.</p>	<p>Option 3 - To adopt council tax premium/s at a lower percentage rate;</p> <p>Option 4 - To adopt council tax premium/s commencing a different billing period;</p> <p>Option 5 – Not to adopt a council tax premium as provided in the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023;</p>	<p>Strategic Director Corporate Services</p>