



# Record of decision

**THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS WERE TAKEN ON THURSDAY, 8TH OCTOBER, 2020 BY THE CABINET**

**THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THESE DECISIONS EXPIRES AT 5.00 PM ON MONDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2020**

Members of the Cabinet who were present - Cllrs D Stewart (Chairman), S Hutchinson (Vice-Chairman), B Abraham, P Brading, S Hastings, C Mosdell, G Peace, B Tyndall, I Ward, W Whittle

Members also present(non-voting) - Cllrs R Hollis, K Love,

Officers Present – C Ashman, S Crocker, S MacDonald (notes), A Minns, W Perera, C Rowland, C Tozer, G Wild

Confirmed as a true record of decisions taken .....

**Leader of the Council**

<b>Agenda item</b>	Minutes
Decision reference	25 - (20/21)
Decision Taken	RESOLVED:  That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2020 be agreed.
Questions / Amendments	None

<b>Agenda item</b>	Declarations of Interest
Decision reference	26 – (20/21)
Decision Taken	Cllrs Mosdell, Brading, Tyndall, Peace and Stewart all declared an interest in Item 6 relating to the Approval of PSPOs, as they were all dog owners.

<b>Agenda item</b>	Public Question Time - Maximum 15 Minutes for Written Questions and 15 Minutes for Oral Questions
Decision reference	27 – (20/21)
Decision Taken	There were no public questions received.

<b>Agenda item</b>	Chairman's Announcements
Decision reference	28 – (20/21)
Decision Taken	<p>The Chairman reported that he, and Cllrs Hastings and Ward, had attended a meeting with the Leader of Portsmouth City Council and the Chairman of Wightlink regarding the proposals for a Clean Air Zone in Portsmouth, which would have financial and economic implications for Island residents, businesses and visitors. A meeting would be held with DEFRA in the near future to discuss the support for a Clean Air Zone in principle and how to mitigate any potential financial impact.</p> <p>The Chairman had met with the Fire Service regarding their response to COVID 19, in preparation for an inspection by HM Inspectorate of Fire and Police at the end of October.</p> <p>The Chairman, in his role as chairman of the Hampshire Policing and Crime Panel, had hosted a presentation by the Chief Constable on the strategy and operational response to COVID-19 for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and was reassured that the police continued their 'engage, explain and enforce where necessary' approach to keep the community safe.</p>

<b>Agenda item</b>	Approval of Housing Strategy
Decision reference	29 – (20/21)
Summary of Discussion	<p>There had not been an adopted Housing Strategy in place for the Isle of Wight since 2012. The proposed strategy recognised the unique environment and challenges faced on the island and sought to increase housing choice for island families and to meet the specific needs of older and disabled residents, tackling homelessness and delivering more affordable homes.</p> <p>Over the last 18 months during development of the strategy there had been several conferences with housing</p>

associations and other stakeholders, including Town and parish Councils and full public consultation had taken place, including an island-wide needs survey to ascertain current and future needs. The strategy had been updated a number of times and had taken into account the impact of the COVID pandemic particularly the six-fold increase in homelessness.

A key aim was to identify the housing challenges faced on the island including the lack of affordable homes built over the last 10 years. The needs survey had identified 222 new affordable homes would need to be built each year, but few had been. The housing waiting list identified 2500 households needing affordable homes at any one time.

The action plan had a number of actions set out to support the key priorities including ensuring the right supply and the right mix of new homes and increasing affordable housing delivery. Reducing homelessness and rough sleeping through effective prevention work and building a new homeless pathway with partner services and providing primary and extra-care housing for older and disabled people.

Adoption of the strategy would allow housing partnerships to be developed and strengthened to focus on housing delivery.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs spoke in support of the strategy and reported that there were many people who had been on the social housing waiting list for years with no realistic prospect of securing access to social housing. House prices and rentals were unaffordable for many people, including young people who had to remain at home as they could not afford a place of their own.

There were 2120 people on the housing register at the end of August 2020. 337 of these were Band 1 or 2. 193 households were in temporary accommodation, 36 of those in bed and breakfast. In August, 21 households had presented as homeless.

Housing supply was one of the strategic priorities, which included bringing empty properties into use, but these must be the right type, size and location, maximising all brownfield building opportunities. The building of 24 new affordable homes in the West Wight had attracted 87 applications. Affordable housing was also needed for young people and families.

	<p>It was noted that the Isle of Wight was one of the few areas in the South East region which did not qualify for Housing Grant.</p> <p>It was noted that the Corporate Scrutiny Committee had been fully in support of the strategy with an additional recommendation that the formation of a council-owned housing company be brought forward one year. The position was to secure development of affordable housing on the island based on evidence of need with the support of the community. Bringing forward proposals for Newport Harbour to develop brownfield land in council ownership for up to 250 homes, as well as employment and cultural and leisure use, whilst being mindful of the community's wishes. The council acknowledge representations made by the local member and the focus would now be on brownfield development for housing rather than at the entrance to Seaclose park. This was due before Cabinet on 12 November. The aim was to minimise development on greenfield sites only in exceptional circumstances and ensure the right homes in the right place for the right people, with islanders' needs a priority.</p>
Decision Taken	To adopt the Housing Strategy as at Appendix A to the report.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	The Housing Strategy has been developed based on a comprehensive review of evidence and consideration of the national and local context, achievements and progress of a range of council strategies as outlined in the report, and detailed consultation with stakeholders over time. Adoption of the strategy will allow resources to be spent on strengthening the housing partnership across the sector and help focus on housing delivery.
Options considered and rejected	<p>Option B – To propose amendments to the Housing Strategy</p> <p>Option C – Not to adopt the Housing Strategy and carry on business as usual without a new strategy in place.</p>

<b>Agenda item</b>	Approval of Public Spaces Protection Orders
Decision reference	30 – (20/21)
Summary of Discussion	The Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) were for the control of dogs and alcohol in public places. The PSPOs were to mirror existing orders with a few extra

	<p>additions.</p> <p>A consultation exercise had been carried out for an 18-week extended period between the middle of February and the end of June. The number of responses received was 1127, including from the police, kennel club and some Town and Parish Councils.</p> <p>A high percentage of people responding to the consultation had been in favour of the proposed controls, which included the control of dogs in cemeteries, in children's play parks, on some rights of way, along St Helens' Duver for certain times of the year, and the control of alcohol to be extended to Shanklin and in Ryde to extend to include the beach at Appley and Puckpool.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Digital Transformation confirmed that the PSPO for the control of alcohol would not stop people from having a quiet drink in a public place but would become an offence to refuse to surrender alcohol if requested by the police.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member expressed a wish to consult Town and Parish Councils to seek their views on relaxing restrictions around dogs on beaches for an extended period of time over the year.</p> <p>It was noted that the Corporate Scrutiny Committee had been in favour of supporting the proposals.</p>
Decision Taken	That Cabinet approves the Isle of Wight Council Public Spaces Protection orders as contained at Appendix 11 to the report.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>To replace previous Designated Public Place Orders (DPPOs) and Dog Control Orders (DCOs).</p> <p>Making places safe for all will ensure the Island remains a leading visitor destination.</p> <p>The PSPOs provide an additional framework for supporting community safety.</p>
Options considered and rejected	Not to approve the Isle of Wight Council Public Spaces Protection Orders as contained at Appendix 11 to the report.

<b>Agenda item</b>	Revisions to Constitution
Decision reference	31 – (20/21)
Summary of Discussion	The Monitoring Officer explained that the report was for noting only at this stage. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had welcomed the opportunity to comment on the revised constitution. An informal meeting of the Committee and all Scrutiny Chairmen would be held prior to Cabinet making a decision on 12 November.
Decision Taken	<p>To approve the work of the Monitoring Officer in reviewing and revising the constitution.</p> <p>To note the outcome of the member consultation process.</p> <p>To request Corporate Scrutiny Committee make any further comments it wishes on the draft constitution before the end of October, in order that Cabinet can consider these at its meeting on 12 November.</p> <p>To consider any comments received from Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 12 November, before recommending the revised constitution for adoption by Full Council on 19 November 2020.</p>
Options considered and rejected	None

<b>Agenda item</b>	Cabinet Member Announcements
Decision reference	32 – (20/21)
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and COVID19 Recovery reported that the first public meeting of the Local Outbreak Engagement Board had taken place and had considered a detailed report which showed that much work was being done to keep Island residents safe and well. There was capacity in the medical services to deal with any COVID spike. The Board would be meeting on a monthly basis.</p> <p>The current position regarding the council's budget was that work was being done to reduce the £10 million deficit. It had now reduced to £8 million and it was hoped to be able to balance the budget by the end of the financial year.</p>

Preparations were underway to begin next year's budget. The level of government support would not be known until later in the year and it was unlikely that any serious announcements would be made until around Christmas time.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills reported that attendance in schools across the island was above the national average, both in the primary and secondary sectors. In early years provision, almost all settings were up and running again. The island was also above the national average in the time taken to complete Education and Health Care Plans, with 83% of plans completed within the target time.

The Cabinet Member also gave an overview of the Kickstart Scheme, with government funding to create 6-month job placements for 16-24 year-olds who had been unemployed for more than 6 months. Where companies were not big enough to be able to offer the number of placements required, they could join together through an intermediary to be able to participate. The Chamber of Commerce had offered to do this. The Council would control the scheme for the island and had asked Town and Parish councils to support the council. The Director of Regeneration would be the lead officer for the project.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Business Development reported that there was to be a pop-up business school online between 12 – 23 October, which would offer business start-up advice. 140 people had already registered to take part. An Island gift card would be launched in the run-up to Christmas. More details would follow soon. Two new Island business advisors were to start working with the Chamber of Commerce to support businesses in recovering from the impacts of the COVID pandemic. The 'Let's Buy Local' scheme would continue until Christmas, and there was the possibility of an indoor Christmas market for local producers.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing reported that the government white paper on housing numbers had been produced and the island's MP had raised the subject in the House of Commons earlier in the day. The council had put in its objections to the proposed numbers expected to be delivered. Consultation was under way on the response to the wider aspect of the white paper and where development would be able to take place.

The Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste

	<p>Management reported on the Green Homes Grant. £500k had been received and would help with fuel poverty and create jobs, whilst aligning with the council's climate emergency strategy as 32% of carbon use each year is in domestic properties. It allowed for also underfloor heating, roof insulation, solar/thermal solutions, double glazing and more. Eligibility and how to apply would go out in a press release within the next week. Confirmation was given that the council would work with companies on the island and a list produced of those companies who could carry out the work.</p> <p>The Chairman reminded everyone that the island is facing a large problem of unemployment and the scheme would help to create jobs. It would be important for Town and Parish Councils to work with the council.</p>
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<b>Agenda item</b>	Consideration of the Forward Plan
Decision reference	33 – (20/21)
Summary of Discussion	<p>Items of the Forward Plan which were due to be considered at the next Cabinet meeting were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest Road/Whitehouse Road Junction</li> <li>• Newport Harbour Masterplan</li> <li>• Appointment of the Leader to the Combined Fire Authority</li> <li>• Quarterly Performance Report – Quarter 2</li> <li>• Approval of Revised Constitution</li> </ul> <p>The Public Health 'Healthy Weight' Strategy would slip to Cabinet in January 2021.</p>

<b>Agenda item</b>	Members' Question Time
Decision reference	34 – (20/21)
Summary of Discussion	<p>A question had been received from Cllr Love regarding proposed improvements to East Cowes Esplanade (MQ 12/20). The Cabinet Member for Business and Regeneration provided a response.</p> <p>Two questions had been received from Cllr Garratt. The first in relation to the St Mary's roundabout works, and the second in relation to abandoned vehicles. The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport provided a</p>

response.

Cllr Hastings raised the issue of badly damaged cars being left at the roadside and said that in cases where the DVLA has a backlog and the vehicle has been in place for some time, the council should be able to have them removed as soon as possible and move them to a pound where they would be released on payment of a fee. This was particularly important where they were left in positions where they were causing a safety hazard or obstruction. The Chairman agreed this should be looked into and a policy considered to enable the Council to take action more quickly.

Cllr Mosdell sent best wishes on behalf of the Cabinet to the Director of Adult Social Care prior to her operation and thanked her for all she had done over the last three years to put the island's Adult Social Care on the national map.