

Agenda

Name of Meeting	CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date	TUESDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2024
Time	5.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, ISLE OF WIGHT
Committee Members	Cllrs J Robertson (Chairman), P Spink (Vice-Chairman), R Downer, W Drew, J Lever, K Love, C Mosdell, C Quirk and S Redrup
Co-opted Members	Simon Cooke (IWALC), Vacancy (HALC)
	Democratic Services Officer: Megan Tuckwell democratic.services@iow.gov.uk

1. **Apologies and Changes in Membership (If Any)**

To note any changes in membership of the Committee made in accordance with Part 4B paragraph 5 of the Constitution.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

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

3. **Public Question Time - 15 Minutes Maximum**

Questions may be asked without notice, but to guarantee a full reply, a question must be put (including the name and address of the questioner) in writing or by email to Democratic Services democratic.services@iow.gov.uk, no later than two clear working days before the meeting. The deadline for submitting a written question is Thursday, 22 February 2024.

4. **Progress Update** (Pages 5 - 6)

To receive an update on the progress against the outcomes arising from previous meetings, and to provide an update on any outstanding actions.



Details of committee meetings can be viewed on the Council's [website](#). This information may be available in alternative formats on request. Please note the meeting will be 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 be aware that the public gallery is not a supervised area.



5. **Committee's Workplan:**

(a) Forward Plan (Pages 7 - 20)

To identify any items contained within the Council's forward plan which would benefit from early consideration by scrutiny, either before the Cabinet makes a decision or to monitor post-implementation, and should therefore be included in the Committee's work programme. The forward plan can be viewed online [here](#).

(b) Committee's Work Programme (Pages 21 - 24)

To note the content of the current work programme, and to consider the inclusion of any additional items. Members of the public are invited to submit in writing to the Committee possible items for inclusion in its workplan.

6. **Cowes Floating Bridge** (Pages 25 - 44)

To consider the Floating Bridge operational review, prepared for the Isle of Wight Council by 3S Business Review Limited.

7. **Members' Question Time**

Questions may be asked without prior notice, but to guarantee a full reply, a question must be submitted to Democratic Services no later than 5pm, Friday 23 February 2024.

CHRISTOPHER POTTER
Monitoring Officer
Monday, 19 February 2024

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 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 <https://iwc.iow.gov.uk/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

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Corporate Scrutiny Committee - Progress on Actions & Outcomes

Meeting Date	Agreed Action	Responsibility	Update	Actioned
Outstanding Actions				
10 January 2023	Forward Plan The committee requested a copy of the review of leisure centres once it has been completed.	Cabinet Member for Economy, Regeneration, Culture and Leisure	6 February 2024: The leisure centres review is being finalised and will be available to share with the committee in due course.	
7 February 2023	Asset Management/ Property Rationalisation The heads of agreement in relation to the proposed disposal of Kingston Marine Park be circulated to the committee once they are signed.	Cabinet Member for Economy, Regeneration, Culture and Leisure	6 February 2024: Legal teams are actively engaged and progress is being made	
12 September 2023	Members Questions Cllr Spink asked for a written response to be provided prior to Cabinet on what the SPD does to make affordable housing affordable by residents on or below the average island wage.	Cabinet Member for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding	A response has been provided and circulated to the committee. Further questions have been asked and awaiting a response.	
Actions Completed (Since Last Meeting)				

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Isle of Wight Council Forward Plan – February 2024

The Forward Plan is a list of all Key Decisions that are due to be considered no earlier than 28 clear working days from the date of this notice by the appropriate Decision Making Body or individual including those deemed to be key decisions.

A list of all Council Members can be found on the Council’s web site from this link

The Leader of the Council (also responsible for Transport and Infrastructure, Highways PFI and Transport Strategy, Strategic Oversight and External Partnerships) is Cllr Phil Jordan.

Other members of the Cabinet are:

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance - Cllr Ian Stephens

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health – Cllr Debbie Andre

Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions – Cllr Jonathan Bacon

Cabinet Member for Economy, Regeneration, Culture and Leisure - Cllr Julie Jones-Evans

Cabinet Member for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding - Cllr Paul Fuller

Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Biosphere and Waste- Cllr Lora Peacey-Wilcox

Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services, Community Protection and ICT – Cllr Karen Lucioni

Any items highlighted in yellow are changes or additions to the previous Forward Plan

**Any decisions that are intended to be made in private with the exclusion of press and public, where for example personal or commercially sensitive information is to be considered, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012, will require the publication of specific notices, including the reason(s) for the meeting to be held in private.

Title and Summary of Proposed Decision	Decision Making Body and name of relevant Cabinet Member	Meeting Date/Proposed Publishing Date	Relevant documents submitted to decision maker to be considered*	Consultees (including town and parish councils) and Consultation Method	May report or part of report be dealt with in private? If so - why?
125 Year Lease of Rew Valley Sports Centre and playing fields, Ventnor to The Island Free School	Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance	Not before 19th Oct 2023	Signed delegation by the Leader		Open
Rew Valley Sports Centre – grant of a new lease to the Island Free School	Councillor Ian Stephens Date 1 st added: 5 September 2023				

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Agenda Item 5a

Title and Summary of Proposed Decision	Decision Making Body and name of relevant Cabinet Member	Meeting Date/Proposed Publishing Date	Relevant documents submitted to decision maker to be considered*	Consultees (including town and parish councils) and Consultation Method	May report or part of report be dealt with in private? If so - why?
<p>Acquisition of land at Pyle Street, Newport</p> <p>Purchase of land at Pyle Street, Newport</p>	<p>Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance</p> <p>Councillor Ian Stephens Date 1st added: 15 December 2023</p>	<p>19 Jan 2024</p>			<p>Part exempt The report will detail the terms of a property deal that will have not been completed. As such, it would not be appropriate for some of the detail to be in the public domain before the purchase is completed.</p>
<p>District 2 TRO Review - Newport and Carisbrooke</p> <p>TRO Proposals and public feedback</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Leader (with responsibility Transport and Infrastructure, Highways PFI and Transport Strategy, Strategic Oversight and External Partnerships) Date 1st added: 7 November 2023</p>	<p>8 Feb 2024</p>		<p>Parish and Community Councils Ward Councillors Public</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Determination of School Admission Arrangements for 2025/26</p> <p>To determine the Isle of Wight Council's school admissions arrangements for 2025/2026.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions Date 1st added: 5 July 2023</p>	<p>8 Feb 2024</p>			<p>Open</p>

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Budget and Council Tax Setting 2024-2025 and Future Years' Forecasts	Cabinet	8 Feb 2024			Open
Budget and Council Tax setting	Full Council Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance Date 1 st added: 4 October 2023	28 Feb 2024			
QPMR Q3 - 2023/24	Cabinet	8 Feb 2024			Open
To provide a summary of progress against Corporate Plan activities and measures for the period October 2023 to December 2023. To inform Cabinet of areas of particular success, issues requiring attention and remedial activity in place to deal with these. To provide a report on the financial position of the council for the same period	Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance Date 1 st added: 13 October 2023				
Integration of LEP functions into Upper Tier Local Authorities	Cabinet	8 Feb 2024		Upper Tier local authorities DHLUC Solent Partners	Open
New arrangements following the government arrangements on changes to LEP functions	Cabinet Member for Economy, Regeneration, Culture and Leisure Date 1 st added: 6 December 2023				

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<p>Council Tax Premiums on Second Homes and Empty Properties</p> <p>New Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act 2023 has given local authorities the power to implement a premium of up to 100 per cent council tax charge on any property empty or unfurnished for over 1 year. It also gives the power to implement a premium of up to 100 per cent council tax charge on any second home from the following financial year.</p> <p>Decision to be made as to whether the council wishes to implement such premium.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Full Council</p> <p>Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance</p> <p>Date 1st added: 3 January 2024</p>	<p>8 Feb 2024</p> <p>28 Feb 2024</p>		<p>No consultation is required for this report as it relates to legislative changes.</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Sale of Plot A2, Island Technology Park, Whippingham IOW</p> <p>Sale of the last plot of employment land at this site to Island Distribution Limited</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Economy, Regeneration, Culture and Leisure</p> <p>Councillor Julie Jones-Evans</p> <p>Date 1st added: 12 January 2024</p>	<p>9 Feb 2024</p>			<p>Part exempt Appendix 2 will contain confidential agreed heads of terms</p>

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<p>Bus Service Improvement Plus Fund (BSIP+) – Local Bus Service Enhancements</p> <p>Decision to approve provide grant funding for enhancements to local bus services, through utilising Department for Transport (DfT) BSIP + funding allocation for the Island.</p>	<p>Leader (with responsibility Transport and Infrastructure, Highways PFI and Transport Strategy, Strategic Oversight and External Partnerships)</p> <p>Councillor Phil Jordan Date 1st added: 25 January 2024</p>	22 Feb 2024			Open
<p>Pay Policy</p>	<p>Full Council</p> <p>Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance Date 1st added: 4 October 2023</p>	28 Feb 2024			Open
<p>Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel Member</p> <p>To appoint an independent remuneration panel member</p>	<p>Full Council</p> <p>Date 1st added: 25 January 2024</p>	28 Feb 2024			Open

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<p>Discretionary Rate Relief Policy</p> <p>New legislation enables local authorities to backdate discretionary rate relief where appropriate. The ability to backdate will need to be updated within the policy and then it will be local discretionary decision as to how far the relief can be backdated.</p> <p>The decision to be made is to whether to adopt this ability to backdate within the policy.</p>	<p>Full Council</p> <p>Date 1st added: 6 December 2023</p>	<p>28 Feb 2024</p>		<p>No consultation required as this relates to legislative changes.</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Determine School Academic Year/Term Dates for 2025/2026</p> <p>To seek approval from the Cabinet on the determination of the pattern of school term and holiday dates for the school year 2025/2026.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions</p> <p>Date 1st added: 5 July 2023</p>	<p>14 Mar 2024</p>			<p>Open</p>
<p>Director of Public Health Annual Report - Childhood Obesity - Call to Action</p> <p>To note the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2023/24 and to endorse any recommendations with the report.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health</p> <p>Date 1st added: 5 September 2023</p>	<p>14 Mar 2024</p>		<p>N/A</p>	<p>Open</p>

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<p>Smokefree Pledge and Smokefree Generation Service</p> <p>The report will outline plans to spend up to a maximum of £2,547,480 on smoking prevention and cessation programmes and services.</p> <p>The plans are in light of recent government announcements to create a Smokefree Generation and make smoking obsolete by 2050. Isle of Wight Council will be allocated an additional £169,296 per year from 06 April 2024 to expand current efforts to reduce smoking rates.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health</p> <p>Date 1st added: 7 February 2024</p>	<p>14 Mar 2024</p>			<p>Open</p>
<p>Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2024-25</p> <p>The purpose of the report is to provide an overview of Early Years childcare sufficiency on the Isle of Wight. The LA has a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient Early Years childcare places that are accessible to parents. This duty is presented through this report to elected council members and is made available to parents.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions</p> <p>Date 1st added: 6 December 2023</p>	<p>14 Mar 2024</p>			<p>Open</p>

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<p>Cowes Medina Crossing</p> <p>Following a number of technical and financial reviews the council is seeking to best understand the options and recommendation for future operating models for the chain ferry crossing at East Cowes / Cowes across the mouth of the River Medina.</p> <p>This report sets out the process of commissioning an options appraisal and a potential Commissioning Strategy for alternative technical and economical solutions to the current vessel operated by the council.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Leader (with responsibility Transport and Infrastructure, Highways PFI and Transport Strategy, Strategic Oversight and External Partnerships) Date 1st added: 25 January 2024</p>	<p>14 Mar 2024</p>		<p>Cabinet members Corporate Scrutiny Internal Council Services</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Island Planning Strategy</p> <p>As the Draft IPS was not agreed on 5 October, Full Council is to specify its objections and to formally refer the matter back to the Cabinet.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Full Council</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding Date 1st added: 17 March 2022</p>	<p>14 Mar 2024</p>	<p>20 Mar 2024</p>	<p>Internal and External Full public consultation</p>	<p>Open</p>

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<p>Concessionary Travel Reimbursement 2024-25</p> <p>The report will set out the concessionary travel arrangements on local bus services for year 2024/25, the recommended rate per concessionary journey and the associated implications.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Leader (with responsibility Transport and Infrastructure, Highways PFI and Transport Strategy, Strategic Oversight and External Partnerships)</p> <p>Date 1st added: 6 December 2023</p>	<p>14 Mar 2024</p>		<p>Negotiations with local bus operator/s via a commissioned consultant.</p>	<p>Part exempt</p> <p>The appended technical report from the commissioned consultant outlining the concessionary travel negotiations, calculations and recommended rate, will be exempt as it will contain financial information which is commercially sensitive to the local bus operator.</p>
<p>Disposal of the former Yarmouth Primary School, Yarmouth</p> <p>The sale of the former Yarmouth Primary School following a marketing campaign in 2023.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance</p> <p>Date 1st added: 12 January 2024</p>	<p>14 Mar 2024</p>			<p>Part exempt</p> <p>Some appendices will be exempt from publication as they will contain information regarding the bids received, including the financial offers. This is due to commercial confidentiality.</p>

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<p>Sale of the former Weston Academy, Weston Road, Totland, Isle of Wight</p> <p>The terms of the sale and approval to sell the freehold, and approval to enter into a grant agreement with the purchaser.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance</p> <p>Date 1st added: 12 January 2024</p>	<p>14 Mar 2024</p>			<p>Part exempt Appendix 2 will contain confidential agreed heads of terms</p>
<p>Future Governance Report</p> <p>To consider moving to a Committee system for Council decision-making from May 2024</p>	<p>Full Council</p> <p>Date 1st added: 7 November 2023</p>	<p>20 Mar 2024</p>		<p>Internal External Public</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Approval of the Members' Allowance Scheme 2024 - 2025</p> <p>To approve the Members' Allowance Scheme for 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025– a legal requirement [under reg. 10 (1) of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 as amended] for annual approval on or before 31 March. The Scheme was adopted on 19 January 2022 following the council's acceptance in full of the statutory recommendations made in the IRP's sixteenth report, and has rolled forwards each year subject to any annual adjustments required under the agreed indexation provision.</p>	<p>Full Council</p> <p>Date 1st added: 25 January 2024</p>	<p>20 Mar 2024</p>			<p>Open</p>

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<p>Adoption of three LCWIPs (East Cowes & Whippingham; Cowes, Gurnard & Northwood; Brading, Bembridge & St Helens) as a Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)</p> <p>Following a period of public consultation, Cabinet to be asked to adopt three separate Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP) for East Cowes & Whippingham; Cowes, Gurnard & Northwood; and Brading, Bembridge & St Helens as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) that post adoption can be used as a material consideration in planning decisions.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding Date 1st added: 1 March 2023</p>	<p>9 May 2024</p>		<p>Prior to the cabinet decision, a formal 6 week public consultation in the LCWIPs will have taken place in line with Planning legislation for the adoption of SPDs, including consultation with a number of statutory consultees</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>The adoption of the Newport Harbour Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document</p> <p>Whether to adopt the draft Newport Harbour Masterplan as a supplementary planning document</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Economy, Regeneration, Culture and Leisure Date 1st added: 7 September 2022</p>	<p>9 May 2024</p>			<p>Open</p>

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<p>District 4 TRO review - Alverstone, Arreton, Lake, Newchurch, Sandown and Shanklin</p> <p>TRO proposals and public feedback</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Leader (with responsibility Transport and Infrastructure, Highways PFI and Transport Strategy, Strategic Oversight and External Partnerships)</p> <p>Date 1st added: 7 November 2023</p>	<p>9 May 2024</p>		<p>Town and Parish Councils Ward Councillors Public</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2024</p> <p>To seek Cabinet approval for the Post 16 Transport Policy Statement which applies to the 2024 academic year. The Post 16 policy statement must be published annually by 31 May each year.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions</p> <p>Date 1st added: 5 July 2023</p>	<p>9 May 2024</p>			<p>Open</p>

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<p>Better Care Fund (BCF) 2023 – 2025 Midway Update</p> <p>The Better Care Fund (BCF) programme supports the Isle of Wight Council (IWC) and Integrated Care Board (ICB) to successfully deliver integrated working that best supports Island residents. The requirements of the BCF are set by NHS England (NHSE), including details on financial and contractual arrangements. The BCF has historically been a 1 year plan but the DHSC changed the BCF to a 2 year plan for 2023 to 2025. The Cabinet is asked to note the 2023/25 BCF midway Update</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health Date 1st added: 13 October 2023</p>	<p>9 May 2024</p>			<p>Open</p>
<p>Draft Health Contributions SPD</p> <p>Following a period of public consultation, Cabinet to be asked to adopt an SPD, prepared in partnership with the NHS Hampshire & IOW Integrated Care Board, that seeks financial contributions from qualifying new development towards new or extended primary care infrastructure in areas where there are existing capacity issues.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding Date 1st added: 12 January 2024</p>	<p>9 May 2024</p>		<p>Prior to the cabinet decision, a formal 6-week public consultation on the Draft SPD will have taken place in line with Planning legislation for the adoption of SPDs, including consultation with a number of statutory consultees and the general public</p>	<p>Open</p>

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<p>Draft Sustainable Drainage Systems SPD</p> <p>Following a period of public consultation, Cabinet to be asked to adopt an SPD that sets out the sustainable drainage principles and design solutions required from new development of all scales that will reduce the amount of surface water entering the combined sewer and help mitigate flooding.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding Date 1st added: 12 January 2024</p>	<p>9 May 2024</p>		<p>Prior to the cabinet decision, a formal 6-week public consultation on the Draft SPD will have taken place in line with Planning legislation for the adoption of SPDs, including consultation with a number of statutory consultees and the general public</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>District 6 TRO Review - Brighstone, Freshwater, Rookley, Shalfleet, Shorewell, Totland and Yarmouth</p> <p>TRO proposals and public feedback</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Leader (with responsibility Transport and Infrastructure, Highways PFI and Transport Strategy, Strategic Oversight and External Partnerships) Date 1st added: 7 November 2023</p>	<p>13 Jun 2024</p>		<p>Town and Parish Councils Ward Councillors Public</p>	<p>Open</p>

Corporate Scrutiny Committee - Workplan 2022-25

The committee is responsible for Scrutiny functions in respect of decisions and activities within the remit of the council, the Cabinet, Cabinet members, officers, and any functions not otherwise expressly delegated to another Scrutiny committee

Date	Agenda Items	Description & Background	Lead Officer/Cabinet Member
27 February 2024	Cowes Floating Bridge	To consider the results of the recent review and possible options for moving forward ahead of a paper going to Cabinet in March	Leader (with responsibility Transport and Infrastructure, Highways PFI and Transport Strategy, Strategic Oversight and External Partnerships)
12 March 2024	Pre-Decision Scrutiny - Island Planning Strategy	To comment on the draft Island Planning Strategy ahead of submission to Cabinet and Full Council	Cabinet Member for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding
	Pre-Decision Scrutiny - Disposal of the former Yarmouth Primary School	To review the report on the options following a marketing campaign in 2023 ahead of it going to Cabinet for decision.	Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance
	Future Governance	To consider an update on progress regarding the potential for the Isle of Wight Council to move to a Committee system of governance.	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions
	IW Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2022-23	To consider the annual report of the partnership in accordance with the Committee's statutory function to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions.	Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services, Community Protection, and ICT

	Scrutiny Annual Report	To review the work of Scrutiny and make recommendations for improvements where appropriate.	Chairman of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee / Scrutiny Officer
7 May 2024	Pre Decision Scrutiny - The adoption of the Newport Harbour Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document	To consider the draft Newport Harbour Masterplan SPD prior to decision at Cabinet	Cabinet Member for Economy, Regeneration, Culture and Leisure
	Pre-Decision Scrutiny - Draft Health Contributions Supplementary Planning Document	To consider the draft Health Contributions SPD prior to decision at Cabinet	Cabinet Member for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding
	Pre-Decision Scrutiny - Draft Sustainable Drainage System Supplementary Planning Document	To consider the draft Sustainable Drainage System SPD prior to decision at Cabinet.	Cabinet Member for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding
	Perpetrator Programme	To receive a report on the lines of enquiry agreed by the committee.	Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services, Community Protection, and ICT
	Policy Framework Annual Review	To review the Council's list of policies to ensure that they are being reviewed and refreshed timely and effectively.	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions
11 June 2024	Quarterly Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 4 2023-24	To consider the Council's performance measures for Quarter 4 of 2023-24	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions
	Performance Management Framework	To monitor the progress made following a refresh of the framework	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions
9 July 2024	Flood Risk Management	To review the progress of refreshing the Flood Risk Management strategy and completion of the Section 19 flood reports.	Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services, Community Protection, and ICT Cabinet Member for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding
30 July 2024 - Informal	TBC		

10 September 2024	Corporate Complaints Annual Report 2023-24	To consider the annual complaints report to ensure that this is helping to drive service improvement through lessons learnt.	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions
	LEP Integration of functions into Upper Tier Local Authorities	The consider a report providing greater detail on disaggregation.	Cabinet Member for Economy, Regeneration, Culture and Leisure
8 October 2024			
29 October 2024 - Informal	TBC		
12 November 2024	IW Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2023-24	To consider the annual report of the partnership in accordance with the Committee's statutory function to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions.	Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services, Community Protection, and ICT
	Budget Assumptions	To review the budget assumptions that were predicted in the 2024/25 budget setting process against what they are currently.	Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance
7 January 2025	Draft budget proposals 2025-26	To review what is known so far and review the planned approach to the 2025-26 budget.	Leader / Cabinet Members / Section 151 Officer
11 February 2025	Draft budget proposals 2025-26	To comment on draft budget proposals ahead of Full Council	Leader / Cabinet Members / Section 151 Officer
11 March 2025	Scrutiny Annual Report	To review the work of Scrutiny and make recommendations for improvements where appropriate.	Chairman of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee / Scrutiny Officer
	Policy Framework Annual Review	To review the Council's list of policies to ensure that they are being reviewed and refreshed timely and effectively.	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Corporate Functions

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Purpose: For Information

Agenda Item Introduction

Committee	CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date	27 FEBRUARY 2024
Topic	COWES FLOATING BRIDGE

Background

1. Following a number of technical and financial reviews, the Isle of Wight Council is seeking to best understand the options and recommendations for future operating models for the chain ferry crossing between East and West Cowes across the mouth of the River Medina.
2. The Isle of Wight Council commissioned external consultants from 3S to conduct a review into the Floating Bridge, to be able to report back their findings regarding possible improvements or replacement of the vessel.
3. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee are to review these findings, and to hear directly from 3S, to enable discussion on the future of the Floating Bridge and to put forward recommendations for the Cabinet to take into consideration when making a future decision.

Focus for Scrutiny

- What are the main issues with the current Floating Bridge 6 vessel?
- What improvements could be made to the current Floating Bridge 6 vessel?
- What are the cost implications to making improvements?
- What are the cost implications to designing a new vessel?
- What are the recommended options moving forward?
- How can Corporate Scrutiny assist in the process moving forward?

Document(s) Attached

4. Appendix 1 – Presentation: Cowes Floating Bridge FB6 Operational Review, Prepared for the Isle of Wight Council by 3S Business Review Limited, November 2023.

Contact Point: Melanie White, Statutory Scrutiny Officer,
(01983) 821000 ext 8876, e-mail melanie.white@iow.gov.uk

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COWES FLOATING BRIDGE FB6 Operational Review

**Prepared for the Isle of Wight Council by
3S Business Review Limited**

November 2023

What is 3S?

- **3S Business Review Limited** comprises former directors of a British ‘top 10’ international engineering consulting and project management firm
- **John Springate** served as CEO, and is a business graduate with long experience in the structuring and negotiation of major capital projects
- **Steve Reynolds** is a Chartered Engineer with similarly long experience in the delivery of major systems control and transportation projects
- Under their management their firm comprised 1700 staff and undertook major infrastructure projects in the building, environmental, power and transportation sectors
- Their transportation experience includes Channel Tunnel, HS1, NR West Coast Main Line, LUL Jubilee Line, DLR, HK Tuen Mun Tramway, Delhi Metro, Manchester Metrolink, Edinburgh Tram and many major highway schemes

How did 3S become involved with FB6?

- John and Steve undertake only projects of personal interest to them
- John is a long-term resident of the IOW and a Cowes-based 'Yachty'
- Aware of the challenges posed by FB6, John persuaded Steve to join him in providing 3 years of initially pro bono advice to IWC
- In view of John and Steve's accumulated knowledge of FB6 and its challenges, IWC then commissioned 3S to prepare this report
- As project and risk managers John and Steve focus on identifying and commercially resolving operational issues at least cost to IWC, rather than proposing technical solutions best left to experienced shipwrights

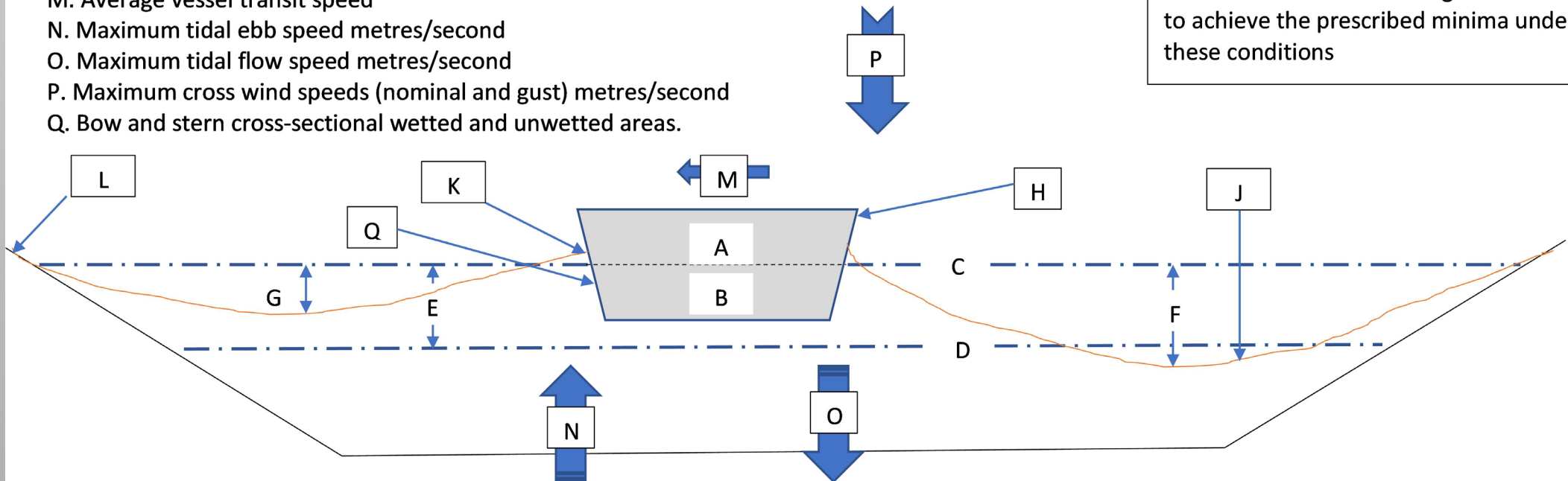
What did IWC ask 3S to do?

- **Produce a Computerised Fluid Dynamics (CFD) digital model replicating the response of FB6 to extreme wind and tidal forces**
- **Identify potential improvements enabling FB6 to cope better with these extreme forces, and hopefully dispense with the push boat**
- **Identify possible operational improvements, hopefully enabling FB6 to achieve increased frequency of service and passenger revenues**
- **Produce a strategy for the possible replacement of FB6 should adequate improvements not prove to be possible**
- **For this, 3S specified modelling objectives and parameters, and identified the Wolfson Unit at Southampton University to build and run the model**

Building a CFD Model

- A. Unwetted hull and superstructure area exposed to cross wind (square metres) - empty and fully laden
- B. Wetted hull dimensions and area (square metres) exposed to tidal pressure - empty and fully laden.
- C. Maximum transit distance
- D. Minimum transit distance
- E. Maximum tidal range
- F. Minimum permitted depth of trailing chain below surface
- G. Minimum permitted depth of leading chain below surface
- H. Vessel mass maximum (fully loaded) and minimum (empty)
- J. Chain link configuration (e.g. open or studded), mass kg/metre and surface area per metre length
- K. Chain exit height above surface
- L. Chain anchorage height above tide height at peak and bottom of tidal range
- M. Average vessel transit speed
- N. Maximum tidal ebb speed metres/second
- O. Maximum tidal flow speed metres/second
- P. Maximum cross wind speeds (nominal and gust) metres/second
- Q. Bow and stern cross-sectional wetted and unwetted areas.

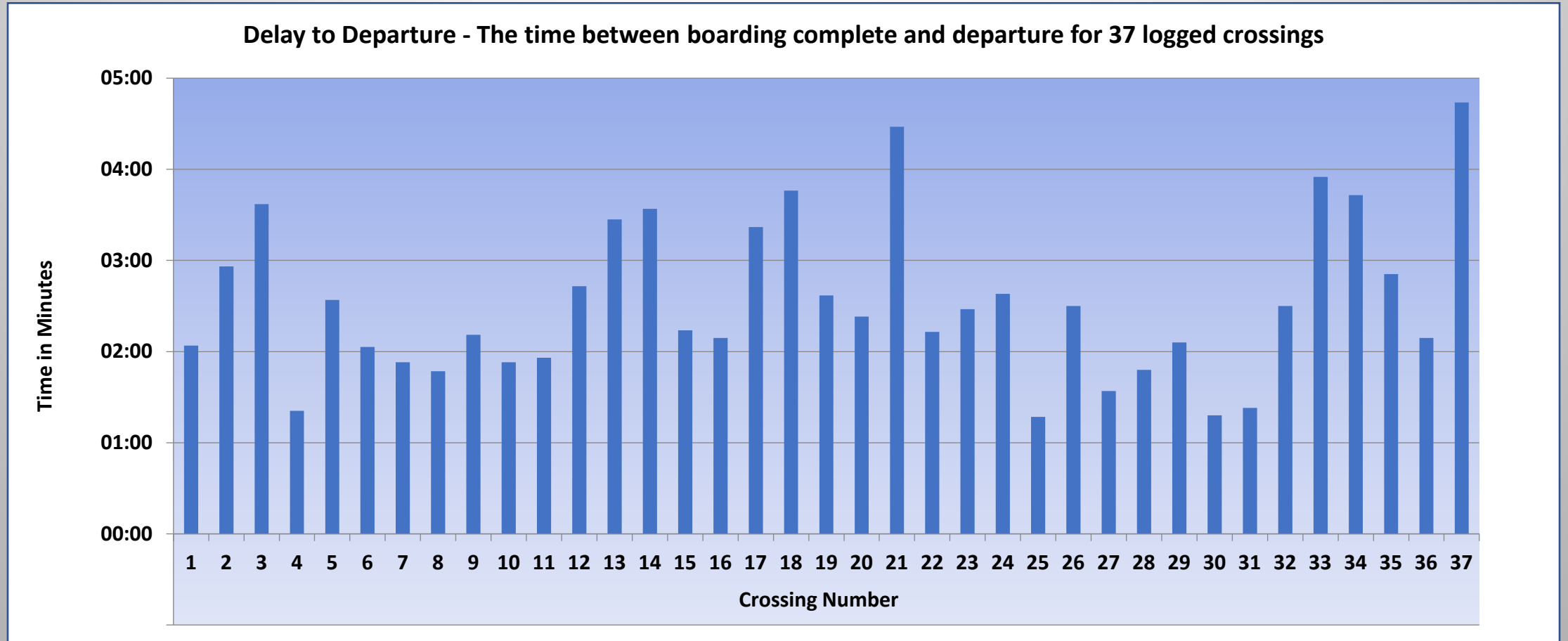
'X' = the deviation of the course of the vessel from its 'no tide, no wind' direct path under maximum and selected intermediate values for tide and wind speed. This will be reflected in differing actual values for F and G, enabling calculation of the chain length necessary to achieve the prescribed minima under these conditions



What conclusions did 3S reach?

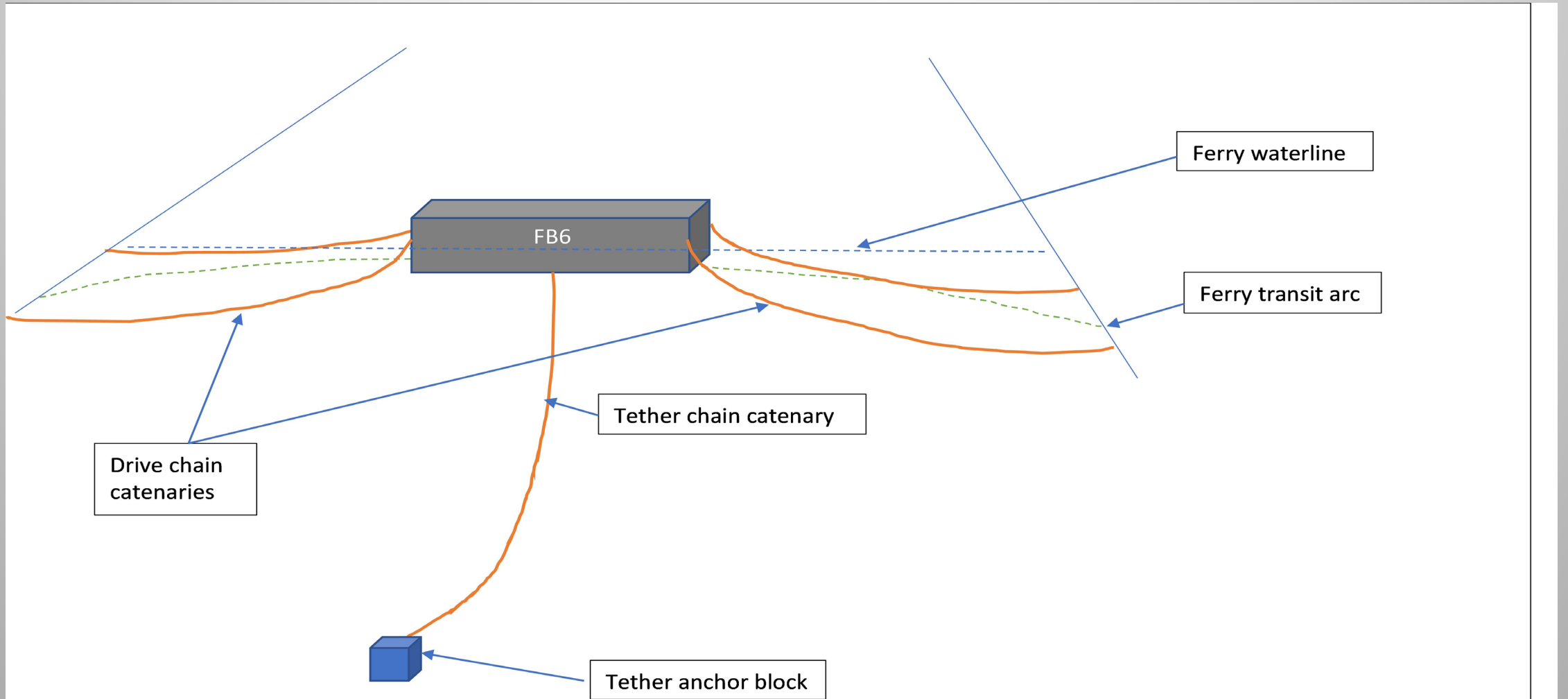
- **Due to the constraints placed on operation FB6 cannot achieve the 5 return crossings per hour required by the Business Case**
- **However, there might be scope to streamline procedures to increase the average frequency from 3.4 to 4.4 return crossings per hour**
- **FB6 cannot be modified so as to be capable of operation without the push boat at maximum ebb tide flow rate**
- **Maintaining the prescribed depth of water over the chains presents a particular challenge probably requiring a radically redesigned vessel**
- **However, the push boat also assists FB6 in berthing safely, and resolving this might be less of a challenge**

Delay to Departure after Boarding Complete



Testing alternative solutions

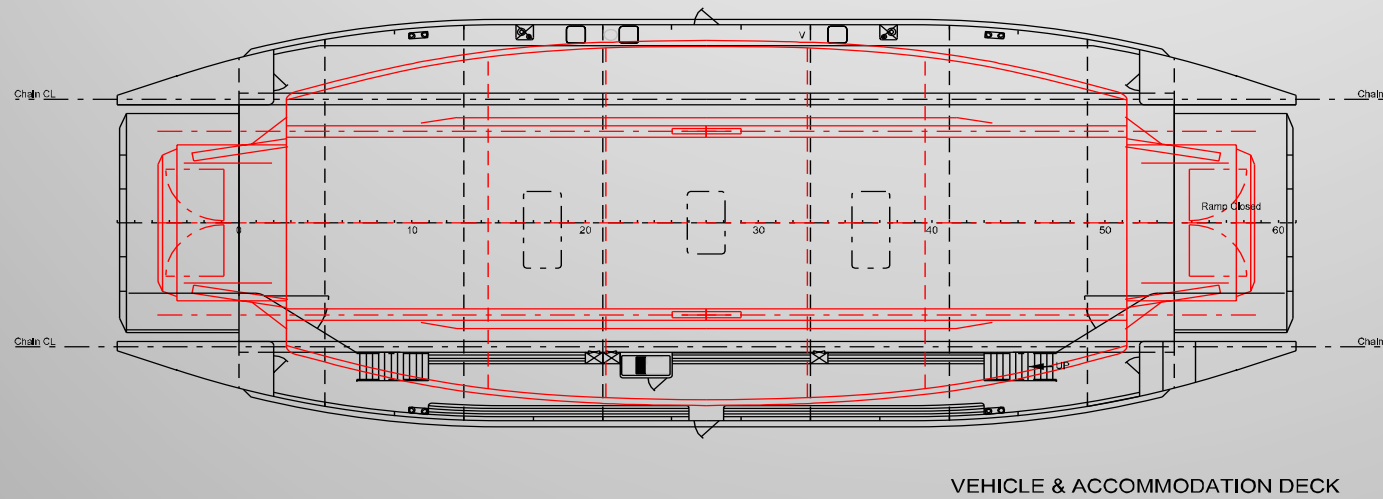
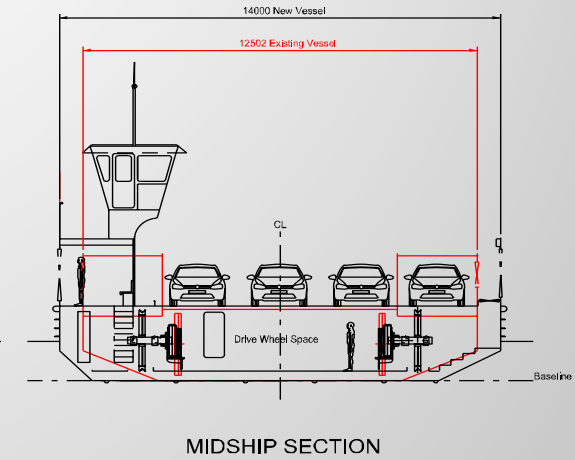
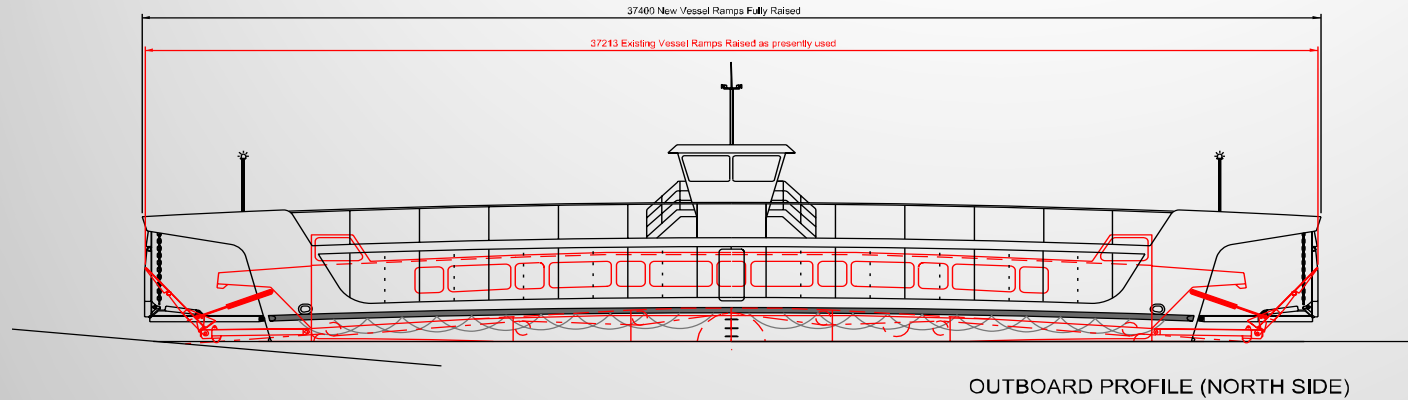
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What are the main problems with FB6?

- **FB6 is over 100 tons heavier than FB5 which increases the underwater hull area directly facing tidal forces**
- **FB6 also has a much greater longitudinal topside profile than FB5 resulting in increased exposure to wind forces**
- **However, CFD modelling showed FB5 would be unable to maintain the prescribed chain depth at present ebb speeds of 2 meters/sec**
- **This supports theories of recent increases in maximum tidal ebb speed, whether due to subsequent marine works or silting**
- **It also indicates that the solution is not simply to replicate FB5**

FB5 and FB6 Dimensional Comparison



What design changes are necessary?

- This is difficult to answer in the context of this report as it requires further expert technical thought and more thorough investigation
- However, a lighter, smaller vessel would go some way towards resolving the berthing issue and assist in achieving the required chain depth
- Aluminium construction could provide a weight saving of 30% over steel
- Greater hydrodynamic efficiency of hull design and a smaller topside profile would provide further improvements
- The CFD model will be of key importance in testing design concepts to help ensure that any such innovations will work in practice

Could a new vessel offer other benefits?

- **A smaller vessel operating more frequently could increase daily capacity**
- **Redesign of the FB6 loading ramps to reduce approach angles would speed vehicle loading and restore usage by owners of vulnerable cars**
- **A more radical redesign of ramps could also revisit passenger and car segregation to improve foot passenger safety and further speed loading**
- **Replacement of diesel with electric motors would reduce maintenance requirements, servicing downtime and noise levels**
- **An electric boat would be lighter and eliminate refueling requirements**
- **Greater power and torque of electric motors could increase crossing speeds**
- **And electrification would assist IOW's achievement of Net Zero by eliminating emissions!**

How do we set about procuring FB7?

- **Firstly, by producing a performance specification stating in broad terms what we want the vessel to actually DO**
- **For example, to be capable of transporting a given number of vehicles in its normal daily cycle - rather than specifying the vessel's size or capacity**
- **Then place a contract with an accredited company who will adopt IWC's performance specification, and design and build his vessel to achieve it**
- **For this, IWC would place a single contract on a 'Turnkey' supplier, rather than expose itself to risk by separately employing a designer and builder**
- **The 'Turnkey' contract would allow IWC to recover liquidated damages, or reject the new vessel if IWC's performance specification is not met**

How does IWC then pay for a new FB7?

- **With over 300 cable ferries in use worldwide it is likely FB6 can be sold to an operator with a less demanding operational environment**
- **However, this presents cash flow issues for an outright purchase**
- **An alternative is to lease the new vessel from the designer/builder**
- **If the lease includes maintenance the supplier relieves IWC of this element of risk in achieving availability and reliability requirements**
- **This will leave only the interface arising from IWC's responsibility for staffing the vessel and managing day-to-day operations**
- **However, this could be eliminated by IWC's sale of a license to Design, Build Own and Operate the vessel for a defined period – e.g. 25 years**

Where do we go from here? Replacement?

- The report contains a great deal more detail than is presented here
- It is for IWC to decide whether to consider procuring a new vessel
- If so, further thought must be given to feasibility based upon:
 - Production of a Performance Specification for the new vessel
 - Likely cost of a compliant vessel
 - Identification of available 'Turnkey Suppliers', 'Lessors' and 'DBOO Licensees'
 - Development of respective contract terms and conditions
 - Further research of opportunity to sell FB6 to another operator

Where do we go from here? – other options?

- **Replacing FB6 is only one of a number of optional solutions**
- **The immediate option is securing the most efficient operation of FB6**
- **Other options include a tunnel or bridge**
- **Or discontinuing the service altogether**
- **All options must be carefully evaluated in terms of cost, time, social, macro-economic, environmental and other aspects**
- **Following which, replacement of FB6 by FB7 might be dismissed**
- **However, for completeness the following slides assume replacement**

COWES FLOATING BRIDGE FB6 Operational Review

**Prepared for the Isle of Wight Council by
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November 2023

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