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Monitoring Officer
Christopher Potter

County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1UD
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Agenda

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date	WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2021
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 9 - 18)

To confirm as a true record the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2021.

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 12 November 2021.



Details of this and other Council committee meetings can be viewed on the Isle of Wight Council's Committee [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 19 - 24)

- 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 Leader**

- (a) Isle of Wight Council Corporate Plan (Pages 25 - 82)
- (b) Report on the use of Special Urgency Provisions (Pages 83 - 86)

7. **Reports of the Monitoring Officer**

- (a) Report on Pension Board Appointments (Pages 87 - 100)
- (b) Nominations and Appointment to Committees (Pages 101 - 104)

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

- (a) By Councillor Spink

Will the Council write to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Housing, requesting that the application of the 'tilted balance' (paragraph 11(ii) National Planning Policy Framework) to planning decisions made by the Isle of Wight Planning Authority be suspended for the following reasons:

- i) A change in the direction of national planning policy has recently been announced by the Prime Minister. The precise detail is yet to be disclosed, but is likely to include greater protection for greenfield with brownfield being the preferred choice for the majority of development.

Contrary to the proposed change of policy, the continued application of the tilted balance will result in the loss of precious greenfield sites on the Isle of Wight which will be harmful to one of its principal sources of income namely 'eco-tourism' and may threaten its designation as a UNESCO Biosphere.

- ii) The R.18 consultation period of The Isle of Wight's Draft Planning Strategy has recently ended. It is difficult, if not impossible, to proceed to the next stage when the scope of the changes to national policy have yet to be determined.

- iii) The Isle of Wight has one of the highest number of planning approvals in the South East (76% approval re applications for 5 or more units 2017-2020). The failure to build the number of

homes required per annum by the Governments Standard Methodology is mainly due to developers 'land-banking' over which the local planning authority has little control.

(b) By Councillor Brading

Full Council notes that:

1. The Cabinet decided on 15th July 2021 to reverse a previous decision which had already approved the calendar for School Term Dates for the academic year 2022-23, with new dates which included a reversion to a one-week October half-term.
2. This decision was taken following conversations with some headteachers, but not with any parents or students or directly with any other school staff.

Full Council recognises that:

3. Whilst there are different views as to the merits of this change, the two week October half term was brought in following an extensive consultation. Whilst it still remains possible to now reverse the July decision for the 2022-23 academic year, as schools and families will already have started to plan based on this calendar of School Term Dates, it would be more prudent to leave it as is for this year.
4. It is, however, regrettable that there was not wider consultation, to include parents and students ahead of this decision – particularly the scrapping of the two-week October half-term.
5. Many families will have recently enjoyed the many benefits offered by the two-week October half-term, which they will now not be able to do next year.
6. There is merit in looking again at the structure of School Term Dates for subsequent academic years (2023-24 onwards), and an opportunity should be provided for parents, students and other school staff (as well as headteachers) to offer their views directly to the Council, ahead of a decision.

Full Council therefore requests that:

7. The relevant Cabinet Member bring a paper to Cabinet early in 2022 setting out how the Council intends to undertake a meaningful consultation with relevant stakeholders on future School Term Dates (2023-24 onwards).
8. Any such consultation should ensure that stakeholders are given a genuine choice between different options, including one which includes a reversion to a two-week October term. Views should be sought as to the pros and cons of the different options, looking at both education and other reasons such as wellbeing and quality of life.
9. The feedback received from this consultation is taken into account

ahead of any Cabinet decision to approve a calendar for School Term Dates for the academic year 2023-24

(c) By Councillor Pitcher

A request to Government to give Local Authorities the power to license firework displays

The letting off of fireworks is an issue that can prove divisive. On one side there are a great many people, particularly children, who enjoy firework displays. The Isle of Wight itself is the home to one such internationally known display held at the end of Cowes Week. On the other side unregulated “back garden” displays cause much distress to homeowners and in particular their pets plus other livestock and animals in the vicinity.

It would not be the aim of this Motion to ban outright back garden displays. Instead by making the letting off of fireworks a Licensable Activity it would be possible to ensure that adequate warning be given to local people before the event, allowing people to mitigate the effects and for potential concerns to be raised. Such licensing would ensure that adequate publicity is circulated and that other authorities such as the Fire Brigade are alerted. The added scrutiny of a system of licensing would also act to enhance safety awareness.

None of this is currently possible however as the UK Government currently controls all these rules from the centre. With this in mind:

This Council notes:

1. The distress and suffering caused to animals and their owners by the act of random and unexpected letting off of fireworks.
2. That organized firework displays are often safer than ad-hoc events.
3. That many people enjoy watching fireworks.
4. That a sensible balanced local approach to this issue would allow both the enjoyment of fireworks by watchers and the security of knowing when displays would happen for local residents and pet and other animal owners.
5. That currently the Isle of Wight Council licenses the sale of fireworks but does not have the power to control their use.
6. That the UK Government frequently speak about decentralizing powers to local communities.

This Council requests the UK Government:

1. Makes the letting off of fireworks a Licensable Activity overseen by Local Authorities.
 - a. Ensures a national umbrella of regulation setting basic limits and ensuring the continued permittance of organized firework displays.
 - b. Allows Local Authorities the freedom to vary all other constraints.

(d) By Councillor Quirk

That Full Council requests that Cabinet carry out a full consultation with tourism related businesses and residents in the whole Bay area concerning

the future of Dinosaur Isle Museum and the surrounding area before making any final decisions on future development of the Museum and the larger associated site.

9. **Member Question Time (30 minutes)**

To receive a reply to a question asked during Members' Question Time, a question must be submitted in writing or by electronic mail to Democratic Services no later than 5pm on Thursday, 11 September 2021. 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, 9 November 2021

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.

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Minutes

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date and Time	WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2021 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs G Brodie (Chairman), C Critchison (Vice-Chairman), D Adams, D Andre, J Bacon, M Beston, V Churchman, I Dore, R Downer, W Drew, P Fuller, A Garratt, S Hastings, S Hendry, C Jarman, J Jones-Evans, P Jordan, J Lever, M Lilley, K Love, K Lucioni, J Nicholson, M Oliver, G Peace, L Peacey-Wilcox, D Pitcher, R Quigley, R Redrup, J Robertson, P Spink, I Stephens and I Ward
Apologies	Cllrs P Brading, S Ellis, J Medland, C Mosdell, T Outlaw, M Price and C Quirk

24. **Minutes**

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2021 subject to the deletion of the word Earth in Cllr Lucioni' s declaration of interest.

25. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Julie Jones-Evans declared an interest in minute number 31.1 as she was a member of Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council, she was also a member of Shaping Newport.

Cllrs, Joe Lever, Andrew Garratt and Ray Redrup declared an interest in minute number 31.1 as they were members of the Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council.

Councillor Geoff Brodie declared an interest in minute number 31.1 as he was the Chairman of Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council.

26. **Public Question Time**

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows:

A written question was submitted by Ms N Thomas regarding the progress made to the WAVE Trust 70/30 (PQ/40/21). Cllr Andre will send a written response.

A written question was submitted by Ms T Redpath regarding the Island Plan Strategy (PQ/41/21). Cllr Fuller responded.

Mr D Sargison from Ryde asked an oral question regarding the Ryde Interchange proposal and to support local public toilets, Councillor Jordan advised that he would provide a written response.

Ms S Farrand from Freshwater asked a question regarding the draft Island Planning Strategy and the numbers included local housing need to justify housing numbers, would the council publish the current assessment of local housing need for each parish? Councillor Stephens advised that central government provided the figures for evaluation of affordable housing, the Council would continue to look at each ward to ascertain the housing need on the Island. A full written response would be provided.

Ms Farrand asked a supplementary question regarding a housing need survey that had been undertaken, to look at local need, Councillor Stephens advised he would supply a written response.

Mr Dom Hicklin from Freshwater asked a question regarding development boundaries in the proposed planning strategy, if a site currently within a development boundary was challenged would the site be excluded from the plan? Councillor Fuller advised that it was an emerging plan and cannot be used currently, the Local Authority was unable to stop applications being submitted.

A Supplementary question was then asked, when looking at greenfield sites on the edge of planning envelopes, Councillor Fuller advised that each application was determined on its own merits.

Mr Huw Jenkins from Freshwater asked a question regarding housing allocations in Freshwater, the West Wight had not received economic and infrastructure investment to support proposed housing estates in the area, could this be reviewed? The Cabinet Member asked that comments including evidence be supplied during the consultation period of the draft planning strategy.

A supplementary question was asked if people lived closer to where they worked rather than the shops, that it would be more sustainable development. The Cabinet Member advised that more people now worked from home and would need to be fed into the consultation.

27. **Petition**

Members considered a petition of over 2,500 Island residents which had been received in relation to Ryde Interchange.

The organiser of the petition Ms C Foulkes was unwell and the Chairman allowed Mr B White to provide a brief outline of the petition, highlighting several points of interest. Members discussed various aspects of the scheme in both support and against the petition.

Following the debate, a vote was taken, the result of which was as follows:

RESOLVED:

THAT the motion contained in the petition fell.

28. **Chairman's Official Announcements**

The Chairman's report had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting, he advised that he had been approached by the Independent Remuneration chairman to ask councillors to complete the recently circulated survey regarding Member's Allowances.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Chairman's report be noted.

29. **Leaders Update Report**

The Leader presented her report and acknowledged that in recent months staff and Island residents had passed away or were in hospital. An event at Carisbrooke Castle had been attended to mark Thank You day, up to 4,000 residents had been involved in community work during the pandemic. Congratulations were given to the number of people including staff and Councillors who took part in the Walk the Wight event the previous weekend.

A question was raised regarding the significantly higher level of unemployment figures on the Island compared with the national average, and what was being done to address the situation. The Leader advised that unemployment figures for August were lower than the national average, however it did not understate the importance of growing the Island's economy and creating more job opportunities for local people. It was acknowledged that businesses in the visitor and hospitality sector had struggled to recruit both skilled and unskilled staff. Discussion with IW College and Visit IW were ongoing.

The Leader congratulated those involved in setting up Community hubs at the start of the pandemic, she also acknowledged the money received in grants for the government's brownfield land release fund.

A question was raised in regard to the St Mary's junction, assurance was given that future traffic schemes would look at greater pedestrian and cyclist access.

30. **Report of the Monitoring Officer**

30.1 **Scheme of Co-option - Voting Rights Scheme**

The Leader introduced the report and put forward the recommendation which was duly seconded.

A vote was taken the result of which was:

RESOLVED:

That the scheme of co-option (voting rights scheme) set out in the Appendix be approved.

That the Monitoring Officer be granted delegated authority to publish the statutory notice in one or more newspapers circulating in the area.

30.2 **Political Proportionality, Alternative arrangements, Allocation of seats, Nominations, and Appointments to Committees**

The Leader formally moved the report, Councillor Debbie Andre was nominated to the Appointments and Employment Committee which was duly seconded

A vote was taken en-bloc the result of which was:

RESOLVED:

1. To approve the review of political proportionality.
2. To appoint those nominated by Alliance Group to their vacant allocated seats.
3. To appoint Cllr Geoff Brodie to the two new unallocated seats, namely to the Appeals Committee and to the Planning Committee
4. To appoint Cllr Shirley Smart to serve as a non-voting co-opted member of the Planning Committee.
5. To appoint Cllr Kai Wacker to serve as the IWALC representative on the Health and Wellbeing Board and to appoint Cllr Shirley Smart to serve as the authorised substitute for Cllr Kai Wacker as the IWALC representative.
6. To appoint Cllr Debbie Andre to the Appointments and Employment Committee.

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

31.1 **By Councillor Martin Oliver**

Councillor Oliver moved the following motion with the inclusion of Option 4 recommended by Cabinet on 9 September 2021 the motion was duly seconded:

Council notes that:

- 1) Her Majesty the Queen has agreed for a competition to be held to grant the prestigious civic honour of 'city status' to a select number of towns in the United Kingdom, to mark her Platinum Jubilee.
- 2) Local authorities can enter this competition, showcasing their civic pride, interesting heritage and record of innovation, in order to make the case for awarding a town one of these honours.
- 3) It is widely recognised that the prestige associated with becoming a city can support efforts to boost prosperity and attract visitors.
- 4) The Isle of Wight is one of a minority of English counties without a city; whereas neighbouring Hampshire has three.

Council therefore agrees that:

- 1) The Council prepares a draft bid to nominate the Island's County Town for city status.
- 2) It will seek the support of Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council as a partner in this bid, along with local businesses, organisations and the public, particularly in Newport.
- 3) The proposed submission is tabled as an agenda item for the Council meeting on 17 November 2021, for approval, ahead of submission to the Cabinet Office by the deadline of 8 December 2021.
- 4) The bid to be approved by those delegated to act on behalf of the Isle of Wight Council, Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council and the Shaping Newport Steering Group.

A vote was taken the results were as follows:

RESOLVED:

THAT

- 1) Her Majesty the Queen has agreed for a competition to be held to grant the prestigious civic honour of 'city status' to a select number of towns in the United Kingdom, to mark her Platinum Jubilee.

- 2) Local authorities can enter this competition, showcasing their civic pride, interesting heritage and record of innovation, in order to make the case for awarding a town one of these honours.
- 3) It is widely recognised that the prestige associated with becoming a city can support efforts to boost prosperity and attract visitors.
- 4) The Isle of Wight is one of a minority of English counties without a city; whereas neighbouring Hampshire has three.

Council therefore agrees that:

- 5) The Council prepares a draft bid to nominate the Island's County Town for city status.
- 6) It will seek the support of Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council as a partner in this bid, along with local businesses, organisations and the public, particularly in Newport.
- 7) The proposed submission is tabled as an agenda item for the Council meeting on 17 November 2021, for approval, ahead of submission to the Cabinet Office by the deadline of 8 December 2021.
- 8) The bid to be approved by those delegated to act on behalf of the Isle of Wight Council, Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council and the Shaping Newport Steering Group.

31.2 By Councillor Steve Hastings

Councillor Hastings advised that he had received and accepted an amendment to the original motion prior to the start of the meeting and moved the following which was duly seconded:

On 18 November 2020, Council asked the then Cabinet to explore the cost and feasibility of acquiring mobile average speed cameras for future use on the Island. On 24 February 2021, Council approved a budget for 2021/22, which included an allocation of £300,000 for purchasing these cameras.

Given that this capital allocation is for the current financial year, Council urges the Cabinet to proceed with the development of a business case to investigate these mobile average speed cameras, identifying the costs and effectiveness of the use of the cameras across the Island, taking advice from the Policy Committee for Regeneration and Transport.

A vote was taken and the results were as follows:

RESOLVED:

THAT On 1^h November 2020, Council asked the then Cabinet to explore the cost and feasibility of acquiring mobile average speed cameras for future use on the

Island. On 24 February 2021, Council approved a budget for 2021/22, which included an allocation of £300,000 for purchasing these cameras.

Given that this capital allocation is for the current financial year, Council urges the Cabinet to proceed with the development of a business case to investigate these mobile average speed cameras, identifying the costs and effectiveness of the use of the cameras across the Island, taking advice from the Policy Committee for Regeneration and Transport.

31.3 **By Councillor Joe Lever**

Councillor Lever moved the following motion which was duly seconded:

The impacts of irreversible Climate Change are being felt across the UK and around the world. Global temperatures have increased by over 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Without significant and sustained action, the world is set to exceed the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit by 2040. Therefore, the current UK target of net zero carbon by 2050 is too little too late.

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, limiting heating to 1.5°C may still be possible with significant and immediate action from national and local authorities such as the Isle of Wight, as well as wider society. Investing now would not only help avoid a cataclysmic climate and ecological tipping point but can also bring many benefits in the form of good jobs, breathable towns and thriving communities.

Council notes that:

1. Many local authorities are playing an important role in the UK taking action to achieve net zero carbon
2. The Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill currently before Parliament states that the UK Government must develop an emergency strategy that:
 - a. requires that the UK plays its fair and proper role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with at least a 66% chance of limiting heating to 1.5°C above pre-industrial temperatures;
 - b. ensures that all the UK's consumption emissions are accounted for, including international aviation and passenger shipping;
 - c. ensures that steps to mitigate emissions do not damage ecosystems, food and water availability and human health;
 - d. ensures that steps taken to increase the health, abundance, diversity and resilience of species, populations and ecosystems follow the mitigation and conservation hierarchy - avoid, minimise, restore and offset;
 - e. restores, expands and enhances the management of natural and cultivated ecosystems to protect and enhance biodiversity, ecological and ecosystem service provision;
 - f. ensures an end to the exploration, extraction, export and import of fossil fuels by the United Kingdom as rapidly as possible; and

- g. sets up an independent citizens' assembly to engage with the UK Government to help develop the emergency strategy.

Isle of Wight Council therefore resolves to:

1. Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill;
2. Inform the local media of this decision;
3. Write to local Member of Parliament, asking them to support the CEE Bill; and
4. Write to the [CEE Bill Alliance](#), the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, expressing its support (campaign@ceebill.uk).

During the debate Cllr Lever asked in accordance with the Council's Constitution Part 4B section 10 (Voting) that a named vote be taken, he was supported by four other Councillors.

A named vote was taken the result of which were as follows:

For (21)

Councillors Geoff Brodie (Chairman), David Adams, Debbie Andre, Jonathan Bacon, Ian Dore, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Chris Jarman, Julie Jones-Evans, Phil Jordan, Joe Lever, Michael Lilley, Karl Love, Karen Lucioni, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Ian Stephens, Andrew Garratt, Richard Quigley, Warren Drew, Stephen Hendry, Claire Critchison.

Against (5)

Councillors Daryll Pitcher, Michael Beston, Vanessa Churchman, Joe Robertson, Ian Ward

Abstention (6)

Councillors Steve Hastings, John Nicholson, Martin Oliver, Gary Peace, Ray Redrup, Peter Spink

RESOLVED:

THAT the Isle of Wight Council therefore resolves to:

1. Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill;
2. Inform the local media of this decision;
3. Write to local Member of Parliament, asking them to support the CEE Bill; and
4. Write to the [CEE Bill Alliance](#), the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, expressing its support (campaign@ceebill.uk).

32. **Member Question Time of the Leader and Cabinet Member**

Councillor Richard Quigley asked if serious steps to ensure the Council becomes a Living Wage employer in a set period of time would be achieved, the Leader

advised that it was an aspiration of the administration to help people out of poverty, however this was a challenge and would involve a number of agencies. A number of things had to be considered when making the decision and she asked that Cllr Quigley assist the Alliance group by leading in a piece of work to consider the impact on the Isle of Wight Council and wider community.

Councillor Joe Roberston asked if the opportunity to make changes to the road layout for Ryde Interchange remained and if so when. The Cabinet Member for Highways PFI, Transport and Infrastructure advised he would provide a written response.

Councillor Richard Quigley asked for an outline of the Adult Social Care situation on the Island, he was advised by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health that we would be in a worse situation next year without any additional funding, this would have an impact on services. The Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Resources and Transformational Change advised that an impact assessment was underway and would be circulated to all councillors.

Councillor Richard Quigley asked if the Isle of Wight Council were supporting the Afghan settlement programme, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Community Protection, Digital Transformation and Housing Needs advised he would supply a written response.

CHAIRMAN

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Committee: **FULL COUNCIL**

Date: **17 NOVEMBER 2021**

Title: **LEADER'S UPDATE**

Report of: **LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

1. The Alliance Administration has come together to produce its corporate plan for the consideration of the council at its meeting today. The Alliance's aim is for the council to work together with our communities to support and sustain our economy, environment and people. We will do this by being community focused, effective, efficient and fair. We know that the Island has many challenges, but we are determined to tackle these and make a real difference to the lives of everyone in the community.
2. The Plan is about and for the Island, of which we are all a part. My Cabinet colleagues have worked closely with directors and the community to identify the fifty aspirations that we hope will make the difference to Island life. I look forward to your support for the Plan when we consider it later on the agenda at today's meeting.
3. The government's autumn budget and spending review was announced on 27 October but we will not hear what that means for the council in detail until December when the provisional local government finance settlement is announced. Whilst we do not yet know what the budget will mean for funding to the council, given the known and expected cost increases set out in the budget, we fully expect the next 3 years to remain financially challenging.
4. The budget confirmed an overall real terms increase in funding to local government of 3.7% on average over the next 3 years. The whole of the increase in funding will be front loaded and allocated in next financial year, meaning that in future years the only increase in funding to local government will come through council tax increases. For next year the government have also announced that the maximum council tax increase for general council services is 2.0% but with the ability to add a further 1% for a social care precept.
5. It should also be noted that the government has also set aside £5.4bn over the next 3 years to meet the impact of social care reforms due to be implemented in October 2023 relating to the cap on personal care costs and changes to the means test.
6. There has been an awful lot of commentary and discussion about the government's proposals for County Deals as a method for devolving powers and responsibility from

central to local government. This is intended to be covered in the government's levelling up bill, which was due for publication in the autumn but is now delayed following the change in Secretary of State.

7. We have taken the view that this council should wait and see what the new bill says before investing time and effort in developing proposals which may then be out of line with the government's thinking. I am keen that our limited staff resources are focused on delivering the aspirations in the corporate plan. We will continue to liaise with other local authorities across the region to understand their thoughts about the art of the possible. Always remembering that the government expects a 'deal' so if we get something from government, we would be expected to give something in return.
8. We were pleased to receive confirmation of £5.8m funding from the governments levelling up fund for the East Cowes Marine Hub project. The combination of public sector, private sector and the charitable third sector partners developed the proposal with the support of the Island's MP and the local community were clearly important ingredients in getting the funding. The project is expected to support 106 new jobs through renovated employment floorspace, 32 new sailing academy jobs and 10 apprenticeships.
9. The project is one of just over 100 successful bids supported in the first round of levelling up funding, with no indication of when a second round may happen. It was led by our Regeneration directorate and I want to thank all those who worked hard in scoping and preparing it. We will ensure that the project has good oversight to ensure everyone's hopes and expectations are achieved and the proposed outputs are delivered.
10. I recently wrote to the then Secretary of State of for Housing Communities and Local Government in early September when I raised issues about the number of homes the government required in the new Island Planning Strategy and the negative impacts of the presumption in favour of development on securing the right mix and tenure of homes built on the Island. I have just received a response from the new Minister of State for Housing which in summary suggests that that:
 - "It will be for the Inspector appointed to examine the Local Plan to assess the evidence provided by the council and to decide whether these [exceptional] factors could amount to constraints which would prevent the Isle of Wight from meeting its full housing needs"
 - "Having an effective, up to date plan is the best way to protect an area from unplanned development [on the basis of a presumption in favour of sustainable development]"

I will share this correspondence with councillors following the meeting.

11. I am pleased to record that Broadlea Primary School was inspected by Ofsted earlier this term and has improved from requiring improvement to good in all areas. I would like to place on record my thanks to the governors, the headteacher, all the school staff and our school improvement team for this achievement. We want to see a higher proportion of schools judged good or better by Ofsted and this outcome will be much welcomed by children, parents and the local community.

12. At the time of writing the Leaders of the world are gathered in Glasgow for COP26, working to an ambition of the world to be net carbon zero by 2050. As councillors will be aware we have recently adopted a climate strategy with an aspiration for the Isle of Wight to be net carbon zero by 2040. We will work to help our community meet the challenges of climate change and in so also aim to improve the overall health and wellbeing of our community by taking actions to provide warmer well insulated homes to reduce fuel poverty, cleaner air through lower transport emissions, and improved mental health from connecting with the outdoors.
13. However, we also understand that it helps to know what small changes everyone can make now to help reduce carbon emissions at home and increase our community wellbeing. Small changes we can all make now include, switch off tv's, monitors and game stations at the mains rather than leave on standby, reduce you water by use taking showers and not leaving the tap running, where possible walk or use public transport, reduce your waste by thinking about packaging when you go shopping pick card or loose items over plastic and make a change to buy recycled and recyclable cards, wrapping paper and presents. We should also look to only buy the food we need, I understand that forty percent of all food purchases is wasted, so this small change could make a significant impact on our individual carbon footprints.
14. We aim to set out these practical tips and much more in the Mission Zero Hub to be launched in the spring. It will be a resource of information, guidance, help and actions to enable and support the whole community to grow stronger together in adapting to a changing climate.
15. As part of our climate change strategy we are reviewing all of the council's investments with a view to ceasing any investment in carbon producing activities. This includes the pension fund and its investments which the council manages on behalf of its members in a responsible fashion and in which it has a duty to maintain the viability and sustainability of the fund at times. The council is already progressing work to evaluate the current carbon footprint of the pension fund and once this has been established the Pension Fund Committee will consider all the options available on how best to reduce the fund's carbon footprint. The aim is to cease such investments as soon as practically possible.
16. With winter and frosty mornings approaching we will soon be reminding our community how we can all help reduce waste and have a sustainable Christmas. We will be encouraging people to shop locally and support businesses to remain on our high streets and grow. Also to support local farmers this winter and reduce the carbon impact of Christmas meals by buying locally grown and reared food this winter – less miles, less plastic, lovely food and reduced waste. We will be providing out usual level of support to small business Saturday which takes places on 4 December.
17. Recycling our food waste has great environmental benefits as it is used in an anaerobic digester to create electricity and compost for agricultural land. Over the summer the waste teams have been reminding residents to make use of the weekly food waste service, if you know of anyone that does not have a food caddy, they can order one for free either online or via the council's call centre.

18. Between July and October this year the council was able to employ additional staff under the banner of the government's Welcome Back Fund. The staff were tasked with ensuring the standards of the public realm were maintained to the highest of standards, especially in our resort areas. In addition, the frequency of bin emptying in our major resort towns was increased as was the frequency of litter picks on some of our beaches. This level of activity would not have been possible without this funding stream. Whilst the overall impact of the programme is still to be evaluated, I hope it has been well received and made a positive impact during a very busy tourist season. It would be beneficial if the government could continue to see its way to making similar funding in future years, but probably very unlikely!
19. Since the last meeting of Full Council, the rate of covid-19 cases on the Isle of Wight reached a very disappointing but significant high of 562 per 100,00 population, primarily driven by a large number of cases amongst those 10 to 14 years of age. As I write the overall figure has reduced to 365 per 100,000 population (as at 3 November) and is now below the UK average of 391 per 100,000. As we heard at the recent meeting of the Local Outbreak Engagement Board, the still relatively high case rate is generally thought to be due to community spread, mostly within households.
20. The fact that we are out of lockdown and able to live our lives more freely is in no small part down to the impact of the vaccination programme, but we should remember that even being double jabbed does not guarantee a person will not catch the virus. In many cases their symptoms will be less severe than if they were not vaccinated, but it is still something to be avoided and it is quite possible to pass the virus on if you do not follow the rules on self-isolation. So, I would again urge everyone in our community to make good choices when you are out and about this autumn, all the good behaviours that helped us through the lockdowns are as relevant now as they ever were. So please continue to think hands, face, space, get a vaccination (or booster) if offered and protect others as well as yourself. The government's plan B would see a return to mandatory face coverings in public places and the introduction of covid passports in some venues.
21. Please remember that all the updated advice and guidance on COVID can be found at www.keeptheislandsafe.org
22. Helping to improve people's mental health and resilience as we come out of the pandemic is an important aspiration for the Alliance Administration. I am grateful for the work that Councillor Michael Lilley is leading in this regard as the Mental Health Champion. I was also pleased to hear that the results of a recent multi-agency workshop held by the Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Partnership have been shared amongst partners and are being used alongside work on children and adult's mental health needs assessments to inform the adults Mental Health strategy due next year.
23. Following a presentation to the Health and Wellbeing Board Energise Me held a multi-agency workshop to identify gaps and priorities in work to increase physical activity, active travel and actively moving when engaging in arts and culture activities as a route to improving a person's overall wellbeing. The results of the workshop are informing children's and adults' physical activity and health lifestyles strategies that are in development.

24. Despite significant pressures across the health and care system our internal care homes, home care services and Wightcare continue to perform well focusing on meeting the needs of our local residents. The Gouldings has recently received its report and rating following the Care Quality Commission's (CQC) Inspection and now being rated as 'good'. Thanks and well done to all of the staff working there for achieving this rating during the most difficult of times.
25. Adult Social Care continues to work closely with local NHS partners in supporting people's swift and safe discharge from hospital but the continued workforce challenges for local independent sector provider partners is creating pressure. We are doing much joint work to encourage people to come and work in the sector including some introductory training courses in association with Isle of Wight College.
26. Our Housing Needs service continues to provide a considered response in highly challenging circumstances. We have and continue to experience an increase in numbers of households and single people approaching the service as homeless or at risk of homelessness and this is being managed within existing resources.
27. The adult and community learning awards evening took place on 6 October which as always provided many inspirational stories from those who had participated in the programmes of learning and gained new skills that they did not expect to possess at the start and often overcoming significant barriers as a result. The evening was attended by Councillor Debbie Andre as the portfolio lead for skills and learning and who was delighted to be part of the event and gave her congratulations to all those who received awards.
28. The council has, each year, to undertake a significant and stringent exercise to demonstrate to central government that its ICT infrastructure is secure and is being managed robustly to maintain the security of the data and information it holds whilst using the public services network (PSN). This work has resulted in the achievement of the full compliance certificate for the next twelve months.
29. The partnership work of the council's hospital discharge team was recently recognised when it was highly commended at the Municipal Journal Awards. The introduction of the discharge facilitation service and an integrated discharge team has enabled a system wide response to a wicked problem. The integration is not limited to statutory partners and includes support from our local voluntary sector and our independent sector. This is welcome recognition for the work of the whole system and I would add my congratulations and to all involved.
30. As this will be our last Full Council meeting before Christmas can I take this opportunity to wish you all much laughter and rest over Christmas and good health and prosperity for 2022

COUNCILLOR LORA PEACEY-WILCOX

Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Strategic Partnerships

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Committee Report

Committee	FULL COUNCIL
Date	17 NOVEMBER 2021
Title	CORPORATE PLAN 2021-2025
Report of	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report sets out the vision and aspirations of the council's administration in its revised corporate plan. Members are asked to approve the corporate plan and its adoption by Full Council.

RECOMMENDATION

2. To approve and adopt the corporate plan as set out in Appendix 1.

BACKGROUND

3. It is important that the council has a corporate plan to reflect the aspirations and desires of its political leadership, giving due regard to the needs of the Island and its many and varied communities as well as the needs of the organisation to achieve financial sustainability and improve its overall effectiveness in meeting the community's needs. The plan put forward here replaces the previous plan which was approved in July 2019.
4. The corporate plan provides a framework for decision making, which ensures that available resources are allocated to meet the priority needs of our communities and what matters most to the Island. Having a clear vision for the future, aligned with strategic priorities and activities also provides a framework for managing the effectiveness of the organisation as a whole, as well as for managing individual services. This in turn allows for good and effective scrutiny of both decisions and performance.
5. The corporate plan includes the aim of the Alliance Administration to work together openly and with the many communities within the Island to support and sustain our economy, environment and people.
6. The corporate plan sets out the Alliance Administration's aspirations and strategic priorities for the council, which are underpinned by a number of aligned and more

detailed strategies and plans that translate the vision, desired outcomes and priorities into robust, outcome focussed delivery plans. Delivery of the priorities will require real collaboration between services across the council.

7. The plan also identifies key overarching aims, namely:
 - The provision of affordable housing for Island residents,
 - Responding to climate change and enhancing our status as a UNESCO Biosphere,
 - Economic recovery, in particular restoring and building upon the positive signs of sustainable growth prior to the pandemic
8. The plan also includes an agreed set of key performance indicators and measures that will provide the means by which to measure the success of the council's stated ambitions for the Island and its communities. These will be reported upon through the quarterly performance reports to Cabinet which are also available to the corporate Scrutiny Committee for its review.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

9. This report introduces a review of the corporate plan with its associated priorities, for consideration and adoption. This framework will inform the allocation of the council's resources.

CONSULTATION

10. The plan has been prepared by the Alliance Administration in consultation with directors and senior members of staff. It has taken into account the aspirations and priorities of the Administration, as well as the environment within which the council must provide its services as described by a number of data sets, for example, the public health outcomes framework, and adult social care outcomes framework.
11. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee discussed the corporate plan at their meeting on 12 September and resolved that the draft Corporate Plan be supported, and the aspirations and key activities within the Corporate Plan be used as the basis of the workplans of this Committee and that of the three Policy and Scrutiny Committees.

FINANCIAL / BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

12. There are no specific financial implications for the council in approving the corporate plan. The plan must be considered as a partner document to the medium-term financial strategy and accompanying budget setting process for 2022/2023 and therefore has been written to align with it and be delivered within available resources.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

13. There is no legal requirement for the council to adopt a corporate plan. However, such a plan provides the necessary framework and context upon which the council can direct its decision making and significantly contributes to robust corporate governance arrangements.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

14. The council as a public body is required to meet its statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, promote equal opportunities between people from different groups and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
15. In the adoption of the plan, it is not considered that there would be any negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics, although in the delivery of individual strategies and action plans that underpin the corporate plan, equality impact assessments will be undertaken where necessary.

OPTIONS

16. Option 1 – To approve and adopt the corporate plan as set out in Appendix 1.
17. Option 2 – To propose and approve amendments to the corporate plan as set out at Appendix 1.
18. Option 3 – To not approve and adopt the corporate plan as set out at Appendix 1.

RISK MANAGEMENT

19. Failure to approve a corporate plan for the council will mean that there will be a lack of clear direction and priorities upon which decision making can be directed and resources allocated. It will also mean that the council is less likely to secure improvements for the Island's communities, fail to respond to the needs of its residents and this will severely impact upon the council's reputation.
20. Without a corporate plan there is a risk that key stakeholders and especially the public will be unclear about the council's aspirations and goals for the Island and may therefore be unwilling to commit their time and energy to working with the council for the betterment of the community. This would prove particularly challenging as the council looks to attract new inward investment to stimulate the economy and work more closely with its partners on, for example, the integration of health and social care.

EVALUATION

21. It is appropriate to implement a new corporate plan at this time to ensure that it is reflective of the Alliance Administration's priorities for the council. The corporate plan provides a clear strategic framework upon which available resources can be directed to agreed priorities for action that our communities and staff can understand and articulate. It also provides the basis for effective decision making, action plans and delivery, clear performance and risk management that contribute to ensuring successful delivery of outcomes.
22. The corporate plan is only the starting point in an effective performance management and scrutiny framework. All other plans the council develops on its own, or with its

partners, need to align and underpin the corporate plan. It therefore should be the basis for service, team and individual plans for each member of staff.

APPENDICES ATTACHED

23. Appendix 1: Draft Corporate Plan 2021-2025.

CLLR PEACEY-WILCOX
Leader of the Council

Isle of Wight Council

DRAFT

Corporate plan 2021 to 2025

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Foreword

By Councillor Lora Peacey Wilcox,
leader of the Isle of Wight Council

As leader of the Isle of Wight Council I present the corporate plan for the council which sets out strategic priorities and direction for the period 2021 to 2025 drawn up by the Alliance Administration.

The alliance priorities are set against a clear aim to work together openly and with our communities to support and sustain our economy, environment and people.

Since March 2020 the coronavirus pandemic has been the most significant challenge our community has faced for many years, and the process of response and recovery to the demands of COVID-19 will continue across the lifetime of this plan. I am very aware of the loss and suffering the pandemic has caused and I will ensure that helping individuals, communities, and businesses to recover from the long-term impacts of the pandemic, emotionally, physically, and financially will be critical to everything we do.

However, the pandemic is not the only challenge we have. Climate change is something that can no longer be ignored. The pressures on our community caused by the lack of affordable housing and the seasonal and low wage nature of our economy also need to be tackled, as must the council's long term funding position which continues to be concerning in the absence of the long promised but still undelivered Island deal from Government.

I am committed that we should seek out the resources necessary from Government and secure the step change in investment to the Isle of Wight that will help us to 'level up' the opportunities for our residents with those of mainland authorities. In the meantime, we will do all that we can to secure income from other sources to help us in this goal.

I am also conscious that the needs of the Isle of Wight must never be forgotten by the Government as it looks to develop its plans under the health and care bill, the levelling up/devolution bill and its planned reforms for adult social care. I want to work with and lobby Government so that the Island is at the forefront of the Government's thinking as it develops its national agenda. I will endeavour to make sure that the Government recognises that the Isle of Wight is a place it can and should do business with.

DRAFT

I will do all I can to run the council in as open and transparent way as is possible, making sure that the residents are involved wherever possible in all the key decisions we must make. I want to devolve more powers and responsibilities to local communities, town, parish, and community councils, giving everyone an opportunity to have more say and involvement in everything the council does. However, there are some areas where this may not always be possible and if that is the case then I will say so and explain why. to those who want to know.

In delivering this plan we will listen to your views about what should be done to support achieving our mission. No one person can have all the good ideas and we will look to involve subject experts. Improving Island life is something we all have an interest in and is something we can all contribute to in some way, great or small.

We will be a council of the people and for the people of the Isle of Wight. That is why the Island's people will be at the heart of everything we do.

Councillor Lora Peacey Wilcox
Leader of the Isle of Wight Council

The key areas for action

This plan sets out the wide range of what the council intends to achieve for our Island community and the values that will sit behind everything we do. How we do business is as important as what we do. Whilst much of what we plan to achieve will be delivered within each of the different cabinet portfolios we have three key areas of activity that will be our main areas of focus for the lifetime of this plan which will need to be central to everything we do as a council.

A Provision of affordable housing for Island residents

The Island is facing a housing crisis like never before. Since the onset of the pandemic over 80 per cent of its private rented stock has become unavailable for long term lets. Approximately 15,000 households struggle to accommodate themselves in the local housing market. Those on the lowest incomes and highest needs struggle to afford current market rents and prices, well below the Government's accepted standard definition of affordable housing. Recent successes in securing affordable housing grants from Government are helpful but have done little to stem the numbers of Island residents needing affordable accommodation.

We will work to increase the rate of affordable housing. We will need to use public and private assets to increase the availability of housing across the Island. We will work to bring empty properties back into use, including compulsory purchases, encourage housing associations to increase their rate of delivery of new homes and we will look to secure investment that will allow the council to promote the delivery of affordable homes.

B Responding to climate change and enhancing the biosphere

The Isle of Wight is a unique place to live and work. Over 75 per cent of the Island is subject to some form of environmental designation and 50 per cent percent of its area is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Further, in 2019 the Island and the waters surrounding it became a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, providing international recognition of its unique natural landscape.

In 2019 the council declared a climate emergency and committed to working towards achieving a net-zero carbon status for the Isle of Wight by 2030. Following further work the climate change strategy, which came into effect in 2021, revised these targets to be net-carbon zero as a council by 2030, across the school estate by 2035 and as an Island by 2040. An action plan has been introduced to guide the work needed to achieve these targets. Over and above this, going forward, every decision taken must have regard to the need to reduce the council's and the Island's carbon footprint.

We will need to both support and exploit our position as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve to lever in funding and support for the work we must do, including achieving our net zero aspirations. We will work closely with town, parish, and community councils to support them in helping to deliver our aspirations and we will challenge the utility companies and our partners to support us in making the Island a sustainable place to live and work. In so doing we will look to also address issues of fuel poverty and health inequalities by making homes more energy efficient and by creating new opportunities for local people to make better use of the landscape to support their health and wellbeing.

As such, every decision we take will not only need to have regard to our climate change strategy but must also have regard to supporting, sustaining, and enhancing our biosphere status.

Economic recovery

Prior to the onset of the pandemic the Island economy was showing positive signs of sustainable growth in what is a well-balanced public /private and service versus manufacturing economic structure. Key sectors such as composite and marine manufacturing have been on successful trajectories in recent years with the key tourism and care sectors underpinning our 'foundational' economy offer. The Island offer as a great place to live work and play clearly gained traction during the pandemic providing a good basis for restoring Island business growth and attracting inward investment. The deployment of nearly £100 million of Government support to assist Island businesses during the successive lockdowns and resulting trading restrictions will hopefully ensure as many businesses as possible come through the other side of the unprecedented economic shock of 2020/21.

The core strengths of the Island economy remain as a platform for recovery, the investment in high speed broadband, the increased interest in the quality of life, open green space and the highly connected attractions of island life all combine to enable continued promotion of the Isle of Wight as great place for business.

Having good premises and a strong local skills pool are also key factors in helping realise our regeneration ambitions. Our investments with partners in the provision of high-quality business accommodation, which reflects the new more flexible requirements of a post pandemic, further supports the Island's 'offer'.

Growing our skills base and retaining our workforce in key sectors, such as hospitality and social care will be a key challenge for the next five years as will helping those who have lost time from education to recover and achieve their personal goals. These will be key aspects of our Island skills plan.

About our plan

Our plan seeks to achieve much for our Island's community as is described in the following sections for each specific area (portfolio) of activity. We will have one councillor responsible for each portfolio so the public can be clear about who is leading the work in each area. All these councillors come together to make up the cabinet, which is the council's main decision-making body, which is collectively responsible with the corporate management team for the delivery of this plan. The corporate management team comprises the most senior staff in the organisation who have the responsibility for advising on the decisions we take and for translating these decisions into the actions that deliver our aspirations for the Isle of Wight.

For each portfolio we have broken down our planned activities into two parts:

- Those which are driven by the elected councilors and reflect the needs and aspirations of our communities as expressed to ward councillors
- Those which the council must do to meet its legal requirements, in accordance with Government directives or to secure good governance of a multi-million pound organisation.

The aspirations of our communities have been arrived at by the members of the alliance, including Green Party members, independents and others working together closely, as they will continue to do so going forward, to recognise those aims and translate them into the key aims set out in this plan.

As a result of our actions, we want the Isle of Wight to be a place where everyone:

- 1** can develop their skills and fulfill their potential;
- 2** is part of the community and enjoys good health;
- 3** enjoys the benefits of a green and thriving economy;
- 4** understands the work of the council and the challenges it faces.

We will monitor our success through the quarterly performance management reports presented to the Cabinet that will track our performance against the key indicators and key actions listed in this plan. We will not be afraid to make decisions where we find things are not progressing as we had hoped and will monitor the environment in which we operate and change our plans to take advantage of new opportunities or manage emerging risks to our aspirations.

Our core values

Our purpose is to work with and support the Island's community, finding ways to help it to satisfy its needs independently or to provide services directly where necessary.

Our values are:

Being community focused

This means, wherever possible, putting the needs of our residents first.

Working together

This means engaging realistically with partners to make the most of integrated working, helping communities to help themselves and being a strong council team that delivers on these values.

Being effective and efficient

This means being the best that we can be in how we organise and deliver our services, using all our limited resources wisely and carefully, getting on with things where we can.

Being fair and transparent

This means making decisions based on data and evidence and in an open and accountable way.

Strategic partnerships and COVID-19 recovery

The Isle of Wight benefits from a strong community spirit which has served it well throughout the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and has made a significant difference to the lives of the community. We understand that the community has a key role to play in shaping the work of the council in general and its recovery from the pandemic. We will look to build on these strengths and support the work of the community and volunteers as we look to rebuild the social, economic, and environmental wellbeing of the Island's community following the pandemic.

We will aim to transfer some of our agreed and listed assets to town and parish councils where they can demonstrate the positive impact this will have in their communities and there is no detriment to the council's wider aspirations. We will also engage with local communities, the voluntary and community sectors and listen carefully to their views when we come to make key decisions.

Our partners will be central to everything we do and where we cannot follow their wishes, we will explain why this cannot be done.

Councillor Lora Peacey Wilcox
Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Strategic Partnerships

The administration's aspirations

1

We will ensure that we listen to people. We will do so by holding consultations in which we will have a proper discussion with residents about issues

Key activities

- The adoption of all policies and strategies will follow community consultation exercises.
- Increase the level of public and independent expert advice for all key decisions.

2

We will challenge the 'confidentiality culture' that inhibits the provision of information to our communities

Key activities

- All background papers to decisions will be routinely published.
- Develop and maintain a document library based on the issues of real interest to the community.

3

We aim to empower and enable parish and town councils to help and support their local communities

Key activities

- Ensure all council assets are managed in the most effective way to meet Island and/or local need.

4

Replace the current failing approach to securing an 'Island deal' including actively pursuing Government for legislation to tackle inequality with the mainland

Key activities

- Conclude the latest round of representations to government by December 2021.
- Work with the Island's MP to scope out the legislative changes necessary to 'level up' the Island with the mainland by March 2022.
- Work with the Island's MP and Government to secure the passing of legislation to 'level up' the Island with the mainland by December 2024.

5

Support and increase the influence of Healthwatch and the voluntary sector

Key activities

- Increase the role of the voluntary sector in delivering services to the community by December 2022.
- Increase the input of Healthwatch and the voluntary sector in the development of council policy and services by March 2022.

6

Prioritise dealing with health inequalities and the resulting poverty highlighted during the pandemic

Key activities

- Undertake a public health led approach to addressing poverty and inequalities in each of the Island's most deprived areas.

7

Review and, where necessary, change the management structure of the Isle of Wight Council to better serve the needs of the council and the Island

Key activities

- Meet with senior management to review guidance and policy to ensure cost effective implementation.



COVID-19 recovery will be integral to everything we do for residents and Island business

Key activities

- Improve the Island's resilience and wellbeing relative to its position when national lockdown ended in July 2021.

The ongoing business of the council

Work with government and local partners to secure, where possible, the local control of central powers where this is to the benefit of the Island and its community

Key activities

- Respond to the outputs of the Government's levelling up bill – due in autumn 2021
- Relate the 'opportunities' in the Bill to the work to be done to specific legislation to 'level up the Island with the mainland from January 2022.

We will use a range of indicators to measure how we are making progress, such as:

- the percentage of residents, very or fairly satisfied, with the Isle of Wight as a place to live;
- the percentage of residents, very or fairly satisfied with the way the council runs services;
- the percentage of residents, very or fairly satisfied with the ability to interact online and offline with council services;
- the percentage of residents who strongly or tend to agree that the council provides value for money.

Strategic finance, transformational change and corporate resources

The Isle of Wight Council has been required to make savings of almost £130 million in its annual spending since the introduction of Government driven austerity in 2010. This has been a challenging feat on a total annual net planned expenditure of £150 million. However, in doing so it has been required to substantially reduce the level of service it has been able to offer the community in almost everything it does.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic makes it even more unlikely that Government will provide the additional funds the council needs to keep pace with the demands for its services. As such, it is more important than ever before that we make the best use of our finances, make sure that we only plan to spend what we have and try to leverage as much income as we can from other sources so that we can do the best for our Island community.

We will aim to secure additional income from sources that, wherever possible, do not have a further negative impact on our community. We will look to secure grant funds whenever they become available, provided they are consistent with what we want to achieve, and we will look to invest the council's money and spending locally to support individuals, help businesses and improve our services.

The council has a great many assets that could be put to better use by the community and at the same time save money for the council. We will review all of these assets and work with local town, parish and community councils to find better ways for these assets to work positively for the community.

Councillor Chris Jarman

Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance, Transformational Change and Corporate

The administration's aspirations

9

Keep the Isle of Wight Council solvent and take all the measures we can to improve the financial position of the council

Key activities

- Refresh the council's commercial strategy and approach towards securing investment and income generation opportunities by March 2022.
- Refresh the council's procurement strategy by March 2022 to enhance our approach to social value, environmental sustainability and 'Think Local'.

10

We will aim to spend and invest as much council money on the Island as is possible

Key activities

- Develop a social value policy by March 2022 to fully recognise the community impact of our financial decisions.
- Engage with the local business sector to reduce the burdens on suppliers in bidding for work; afford support and guidance in how to successfully prepare tenders; using local advertising routes to make opportunities more accessible and seeking local quotes for contracts with a value of less than £25,000.

11

All major short term future capital/ revenue commitments by the council will be reviewed and put on hold where appropriate. A clear timeline for this review process will be created

Key activities

- Capital expenditure not already committed will be immediately paused for review and approval as part of the process for setting the budget for future years.
- Cabinet will recommend the capital programme for approval by full council in February of each year.

12

We will actively look at invest to save opportunities which we can borrow to fund

- All capital spending proposals will only be considered after the appraisal of the potential for an invest to save approach has been undertaken.
- We will retain a 'transformation budget' to pump prime changes in service delivery that provide long term savings to the council.

13

We will initiate a strategic infrastructure and capacity review of all key utility services

- We will hold discussions with Southern Water and SSE for clarity around meeting infrastructure and capacity needs for the Island by November 2021.
- We will make joint representations with other local authorities at a regional level to ensure Southern Water meet effective capacity and infrastructure requirements and take more responsibility for impacts on the Island's road network.
- We will produce a utility capacity audit by October 2022.

14

There will be transparency and disclosure of council finances, debts, loans and contracts

- We will develop and maintain a document library of debts, loans and contracts from November 2021.

The ongoing business of the council

Ensure the council's planned expenditure is ultimately no greater than its expected income and that it has a sound approach to financial decision making

Key activities

- Deliver a plan to manage the substantial debt we inherited and, where possible, reduce the burden of interest payments.
- We will produce a financial plan for approval by the full council each February.
- We will publish and monitor the council's spending and financial performance quarterly, identifying any remedial actions to be taken.
- Cabinet members will review their portfolio budgets monthly with their lead directors.

Continue to build upon the success of 'Believe in Great' (BIG) organisational development plan delivered in partnership with staff to drive culture change and to encourage staff to be ambitious, innovative, creative and action oriented in the planning and delivery of activities for and on behalf of the community

Key activities

- We will update and deliver the BIG action plan each April, in conjunction with the council's employees, so that they continue to be empowered to deliver services within the corporate framework.

Work to ensure the council is recognised as a good employer and a great place to work, recognising the value of staff to the organisation

Key activities

- Deliver an organisational development strategy and action plan for the council by January 2022 to take account of the wider workforce planning and development issues that go towards being an employer of choice.
- Continue to deliver the council's attendance and wellbeing strategy designed to increase workforce resilience, productivity and work/life balance.
- Secure improvements in our recruitment processes and in the promotion of careers and opportunities in local government.
- Continue to exploit the benefits and opportunities brought about by agile working methodologies and hybrid working and which can bring about improvements in service delivery.

Ensure the effective and timely delivery of benefits and support payments to vulnerable people

Key activities

- Continue to work closely with Islehelp to provide quick and easy access to information, guidance and assistance to those in need.

We will use a range of indicators to measure how we are making progress such as:

- the percentage of predicted revenue outturn (net cost of services) compared to budget (quarterly measure);
- the percentage forecast revenue income (fees and charges) compared to budget (quarterly measure);
- the value of cumulative capital expenditure compared to profiled budget (quarterly measure);
- the level of income generation through the delivery of identified commercial and investment initiatives (annual measure);
- the number of local supplier tender awards (annual measure);
- the total value of gross business rates payable (annual measure);
- the number of band D equivalent properties (annual measure);
- the average working days lost to sickness per employee (quarterly measure);
- the average time to answer calls to the contact centre (quarterly measure);
- the average speed of processing new benefit claims (quarterly measure);
- reducing debt and interest payments.

Adult social care and public health

The core purpose of the adult social care services is the delivery of person-centered, high quality and sustainable care support for all. The Care Close to Home Strategy (CCtH) introduced in April 2017, has resulted in the many key improvements. We are working to update the CCtH strategy to take account of the many changes we have faced in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic and are producing an updated series of action plans that will be delivered over the life of this corporate plan.

These action plans will continue to focus on helping people in receipt of adult social care to live at home for longer, as we know this is the preference for many of the people we support. To do this we will work creatively to avoid the unnecessary use of hospital care, care homes and temporary accommodation and focus packages of care to meet the needs of a diverse community. This will initially be through short to medium term interventions, adaptations, equipment, and technology that help to prevent or delay people's need for longer term support.

As a council, we will not be complacent. We will continually strive to make things better, to do things differently and to ensure that our decisions are driven by local people's values and priorities.

Our collective focus will be to support people to live fulfilling lives and to maintain, or regain, the maximum level of independence possible. Both adult social care and homelessness are key national, as well as local political priorities where significant reform is awaited from Government. It is a matter of pride, therefore, that 90 per cent of all care providers on the Isle of Wight are rated as good or outstanding by the Care Quality Commission and that, despite very significant pressure and a shortage of affordable housing, no child has had to live in bed and breakfast accommodation since the start of 2020. Reducing health inequalities and poverty are a priority, supporting our community alongside improving access to good and high quality care and health services is essential.

Our residents enjoy good health and wellbeing however the pandemic has highlighted the need to both improve the provision of health education and protect our population from harm. We have seen the consequences of poorer health of the population from COVID-19, with some members of our community having been disproportionately

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affected. Key aspects of this include preventative programs and improving understanding of key health issues which we will implement across the health and care system. We will do all that we can to challenge inequalities and the causes of poverty that impact on poor health and subsequent need for health care.

We will work to ensure that our Island's health and healthcare system continues to improve and that as an Island we tackle the key issues relevant to our population and geography. We will focus on those with the most needs, recognising the diversity of need, with different groups of people on the Island experiencing different outcomes. We will focus on inclusion to improve and drive better health outcomes. Both mental and physical health are key to this and we want to work with our communities focusing on all aspects of health and their interconnectedness. Our approach means we will work to tackle those issues that impact on poor health including our environment, education and housing.

Working across all partners and agencies linked with health is an important part of shaping and responding to community needs and is highly valued.

Over 16,000 people on the Island are unpaid carers, providing essential care and support to their partner, child, parent, friend or neighbors and we recognise the fantastic work that unpaid carers do within local communities. We will continue to provide support for unpaid carers within our council systems and policies.

We are very aware of the fact that the health system is likely to undergo significant changes over the life of this plan with the emergence of integrated care systems and local integrated care partnerships. We will do all that we can to make sure that the needs and interests of the Island's community are properly represented and accounted for in these changes. We will look to integrate our services with health partners only where this is in the best interests of the community or where we are required to do so.

Councillor Karl Love

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

The administration's aspirations

15

Place the health and wellbeing of residents at the centre of all we do

Key activities

- Ensure that the health and wellbeing of our residents is considered within all council policy decisions and embedded within partnerships with bespoke Island initiatives provided to support our communities.
- Develop a health and wellbeing strategy will focus on our Island's diversity, inequalities, and area of deprivation.
- Putting the people at the centre of planned programmes of support with consultation, intervention, and actions.
- Support smoking cessation initiatives and smoke free environments, health eating and weight loss, alcohol, and substance misuse, inspire physical activity.
- Work with partners to introduce a programme of work focused on improving mental health and wellbeing.

16

Review the current arrangements in respect of the management of public health

Key activities

- A full and independent review of the public health strategic partnership with Hampshire County Council reporting the outcomes to the cabinet in autumn 2022 for consideration and action.

17

Promote the building of affordable supported social retirement housing to ensure residents maintain their independence for as long as possible

Key activities

- Open Green Meadow extra care housing facility in Freshwater by October 2021, providing 75 units of affordable extra care housing for elders and disabled adults aged over 55.
- To undertake a review of the Isle of Wight independent living strategy, including the possibility of developing owner occupied extra care facilities. This review to be completed by end of January 2021.

18

Support the restoration of mental health support services and treat mental health support as a priority across all areas of the council

Key activities

- Strengthen the role of the council's mental health champions, resourcing and increasing community participation and the public voice.
- Assess how our strategies, commissioning decisions and directly provided services support and improve mental health and wellbeing.
- We will work closely with partners such as health services, town and parish councils, the voluntary sector and employers to improve the social determinants of poor mental health, creating a place-based approach to mental wellbeing.
- Review the Isle of Wight suicide prevention strategy and action plan. Progress will be monitored by the health and wellbeing board.

The ongoing business of the council

Recognise the contribution made by unpaid carers to the Island community by providing information and support

Key activities

- Review the Isle of Wight carers strategy following a period of consultation with unpaid carers and those they support. Agree and deliver a new strategy and action plan by September 2022.
- Increase the number of carers receiving support.

Review the care close to home strategy, promoting, improving and protecting wellbeing and continuing to increase the numbers of people we support in their own homes.

Key activities

- Complete action plans for the new strategic across each of the six themes by December 2021.

Drive forward integration with health, putting in place the right governance, commissioning and delivery arrangements so that we secure care closer to home.

Key activities

- By December 2021, to agree and deliver a community services strategy with the Isle of Wight NHS Trust and CCG which expands upon current integrated arrangements across ASCHN and the local NHS – explicitly, to include learning disabilities and mental health services to ensure that people can get the right support when they need it. This will include services working together in local community hubs planned for Newport and Sandown.
- By December 2022, to agree and deliver integrated community commissioning arrangements with the CCG, building on the current better care fund arrangements.

Champion the need of the Island in development and implementation of the NHS sponsored Hampshire and Isle of Wight integrated care system

Key activities

- Ensure full democratic representation on the shadow (April 2022) and main (April 2023) boards of the integrated care system
- Develop and secure support for an Isle of Wight branch of the integrated care system (April 2022) and seek the delegation of some ICS functions to the local branch by April 2023 and then ongoing as the opportunities arise

Agree and secure ongoing funding for key schemes funded by the improved better care fund

Key activities

- Complete review of the early help living well service by December 2021
- Implement the recommendations of the bed based review of the regaining independence service – reducing the numbers of nursing home beds commissioned and reinvest these funds into home based reablement to start from April 2022
- Undertake a full review of the regaining independence service, including funding by April 2022. Ensuring that the review also includes consideration of the recommendations from the recent bed based review of the regaining independence service – reducing the numbers of care home beds commissioned and reinvest these funds into home based reablement.
- Renew the contract with Mountbatten by December 2021 relating to the delivery of the raising standards initiative which focuses on supporting all CQC regulated care across the Island to be high quality. Report this to the cabinet for consideration in January 2022.
- Review the Isle of Wight market position statement to ensure that independent providers understand the future needs of people living on the Island and the priorities of local people.

Continue to drive improvements in adult safeguarding practice, embedding making safeguarding personal and ensuring a high quality and consistent approach across the council and its partners

Key activities

- Review current safeguarding thresholds to ensure that they retain their accuracy and impact and deliver multi-agency training based on any recommendations. By June 2022.
- Deliver a campaign of public media focused safeguarding protective measures.

To ensure clinically safe effective services are delivered across the Public Health responsibilities, within budget and to those that are in greatest need, undertaking procurement of services as required

Key activities

- Quarterly performance reviews of all services to confirm, need, quality and clinical safety.

On behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board update the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) ensuring the data is relevant, current and informs decision making at all levels of the council and the health system

Key activities

- Complete a refresh of JSNA by July 2022 including COVID-19 impact and ensure its use by partners to inform decision making.

To ensure that the public health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is actively monitored and that the public are properly informed of the actions they may need to take

Key activities

- Monitor the presence of COVID-19 across the Island and initiate activities in response as detailed in the CONTAIN action plans.

Sexual health and inclusion services

Key activities

- Review the existing contractual agreements by January 23.
- Maintain a high quality service for our Island which is a bespoke diverse service.
- Annual report from the local manager to be submitted to the cabinet member for consideration, February recurring.
- Support a reduction of unintended pregnancy.
- Developing a new safe confidential space for diversity LGBT+ and inclusion. Facilitate a sexual health and inclusion worker providing support for health education, health improvement.

We will use a range of indicators to measure how we are making progress such as:

- the rate of permanent admissions to residential and nursing care homes per 100,000 population (older people 65+) (annual measure);
- the proportion of people in receipt of care and support funded by the council supported to remain in their own home (annual measure);
- the number of households in temporary accommodation (annual measure);
- the proportion of older people (65+) still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation services (quarterly measure);
- the number of people discharged from hospital progressing direct to long term support at home (ASCHN funded) (quarterly measure);
- the average number of people on the housing register (per month) in each of the bands (quarterly measure). The proportion of people in need of secondary mental health support (annual measure);
- the life expectancy at birth (males) (annual measure);
- the life expectancy at birth (females) (annual measure);
- the number of people stopping smoking 4 weeks (in the commissioned service) (quarterly measure);
- the number of people achieving weight loss of 5% of body weight in 12 weeks (in the commissioned service) (quarterly measure);
- the number of adults aged 25 and over taking part in sport or physical activity (quarterly measure);
- a successful completion of alcohol treatments (quarterly measure);
- numbers smoking at time of delivery (birth of baby) (quarterly measure);
- the percentage of children overweight or obese in Y6 (quarterly measure);
- MMR vaccination coverage at 2 years old (quarterly measure).

Community safety, housing and digital services

Regulatory and community safety services incorporates regulatory functions such as trading standards, environmental health, and licensing. These service ensure regulatory compliance through support, intervention and enforcement, which in turn enables the successfulness of our business sector as well as economic growth. Working in partnership the service also tackles some of the wider problems such as crime, anti-social behaviour/ disorder and reducing reoffending, as well as environmental issues such as contaminated land remediation and improvement in air quality.

For the next few years we will focus our activities on the recovery of the Island's business sector, following the covid pandemic, supporting those businesses which pose the highest risk to safety or public health of our communities. We will put greater emphasis on support and education with enforcement activity reserved for only the most serious of offences. We will seek to explore ways in which regulatory services can support businesses and communities in their activities.

We will also focus on the more vulnerable areas of our communities where the impact of crime, anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse can be significant. We will put to best use the expected funding from 2021 to 2025 to address issues such as violent crime reduction (under 25s), safer streets (focus on the safety of women and girls) and domestic abuse (following the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021).

We will work to increase the rate of affordable housing for Island residents using public and private assets to increase the availability of housing across the Island. This will include work to bring empty properties back into use, using measures including compulsory purchases and looking to secure investment that will allow the council to promote the delivery of affordable homes.

We will work to renew and refresh the council's website, making it simpler for people to find the information they need in a timely way and for them to communicate with the council. It will become the window on the council and is key to our aspirations to be

open and transparent in everything we do. In the meantime, we will work to improve our digital presence by making greater use of social media and targeted communications with the public.

Councillor Ian Stephens

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Community Protection, Digital Transformation, Housing Provision and Housing Needs

The administration's aspirations

19

Endeavour to reintroduce CCTV monitoring where needed to support public safety

Key activities

- Endeavour to reintroduce 24 hour CCTV monitoring to one third of identified 'hotspots' annually.
- Reduce the levels of street based unwarranted attention faced by woman and girls by the introduction of the safe streets programme.

20

Create a new accessible council website

Key activities

- Phase one of a new website including services for planning; fostering; registrars; coastal management; parking; adult community learning and adult social care to be operable by 31 March 2022.
- Phase two, for all other services to be operable by March 2023.

21

Support Island wide digital connectivity to support Island businesses and residents.

Key activities

- Support Wight Fibre rollout of full fibre to the premises to June 2023.
- Identify options to reach noncommercial property to enable maximum possible coverage by June 2023.

22 Housing that is created must be housing fit for purpose. We will prioritise truly affordable housing for Island residents, meaning housing that is not just affordable to rent or buy but affordable to live in and maintain.

Key activities

- Work with partners, including town and parish councils to deliver innovative solutions to secure the provision of affordable housing for Island residents
- Where necessary make use of the council's housing company to address market failure in meeting needs
- Where possible use available powers including compulsory purchase
- Introduce temporary housing schemes to meet local needs by September 2023
- Increase the number of affordable housing units available by December 2023

23 Wherever possible bring appropriate empty and derelict buildings back into use for affordable housing.

Key activities

- Annually increase the number of empty and derelict properties that are brought back into residential use from April 2022 and keep the Empty Property Strategy under review so that it remains fit for purpose.

The ongoing business of the council

Work in partnership to deliver key priorities for community safety in the reduction of crime, anti-social behaviour and disorder, reduce reoffending and prevention of radicalisation (counter terrorism).

Key activities

- Deliver the violent crime reduction unit funded by the Home Office including local interventions.
- Complete the Domestic Abuse Act capacity fund review and Strategic plan. Put in place the new Strategic Domestic Abuse Partnership by March 2022.

Deliver the statutory regulatory functions to keep the Island businesses, residents, and visitors safe from harm

Key activities

- Deliver a revised statutory intervention programme 2021-23 to prioritise the highest risk areas including the backlog of regulatory work following the Covid pandemic.

Continue to ensure the private sector housing stock is fit for purpose and compliant with current housing standards

Key activities

- Extend the licensing scheme following review for Houses in Multiple Occupation to other HMO categories, by March 2023.

Enable those with a disability to access funding for adaptations so that they can live safely within their own homes

Key activities

- Increase the delivery of the annual disabled facility grant scheme so that people are able to undertake adaptations more quickly.

Bid for, promote and deliver the various home energy efficiency grant schemes to improve Island homes and reduce energy consumption.

Key activities

- Actively monitor with partners and stakeholders the availability of funds to support these schemes and make targeted bids as they become available.

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We will use a range of indicators to measure how we are making progress such as:

- the percentage of the population that feel safe in the community (annual measure);
- the amount of funding secured for the Island for community safety initiatives (annual measure);
- the percentage of 0,1 or 2 rated premises for food hygiene (annual measure);
- the amount of money saved to vulnerable consumers by trading standard interventions. (quarterly measure);
- the number of empty residential properties where Isle of Wight Council intervention results in their being brought back into residential use (annual measure);
- the percentage of long-term empty residential properties (annual measure);
- the number and value of disabled facility grants issued (quarterly measure);
- the number of temporary housing units delivered (annual measure);
- the number of new affordable homes built (annual measure).

Children's services, education and skills

Children and families on the Isle of Wight benefit from a high performing Children's Services department. Our social care services are rated as 'good' in all areas by Ofsted, our services for children with special needs perform as well any in the region, our services to support schools are highly valued and schools are increasingly performing better, although there is still more to do.

Children's services is a highly regulated and inspected area of the council's activity and has to carry out over 200 statutory duties. Therefore, it is important that the council continues to perform these functions well. Doing the basics well is particularly important for Children's Services and the children and families that we support in so many ways.

Our ambitions for the duration of this corporate plan are that we remain a high performing department as measured by our fulfilment of statutory duties and a broad set of performance and quality markers that are regularly scrutinised through the council's democratic processes. We are also ambitious for all of our schools and aspire to help all schools on the Island become at least 'good' in Ofsted terms, measuring progress along the journey. We are equally ambitious for children with special needs and will maintain high performance in terms of the timeliness of education, health and care plans and engage with families more effectively whilst also seeking to bring the high needs block of schools funding back into balance in the long term.

We will continue to transform our children's social care services through the embedding of our 'Hampshire and Isle of Wight Approach' to social work which has been demonstrated to enable more children to stay safely with the families rather than come into public care. Allied to this we will work on transforming our work with foster carers and placement providers to ensure that for children who do need to come into care, we provide the highest quality care possible.

Councillor Debbie Andre
Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Lifelong Skills

The administration's aspirations

24

Listen to parents and students and work with them to develop 'needs driven' childrens services

Key activities

- Delivery of Isle of Wight children's services participation strategy and annual action plan, including: response to the annual children in care 'brightspots' survey; implementation of the young inspectors programme; care leavers allotment programme; 'come dine with us'; participation of Isle of Wight children in all parliamentary programme; have your say activity week; STAR awards; children's participation in recruitment and tendering processes.
- Facilitation of the hearing young people's experiences (HYPE) group and ensuring recommendations from this group are taken forward through the corporate parenting board.
- Developing an 'expert by experience' group to inform the transformation programme within children's services.
- Co-producing with Island Parent Carer Network all significant policies and strategies in SEND such as sufficiency strategy, SEN Support guidance, self-evaluation against new SEND Ofsted framework and refresh of SEND action plan.

25

Work with local communities to maintain and ensure appropriate local school provision

Key activities

- Complete consultation on Chillerton and Rookley school.
- Ensure a strategic school places plan is in place and maintained.

26

All council decisions must be considered with regard to their impact on young people and future generations

Key activities

- Review council decision making template by December 2021.

27

Promote active engagement with the youth council and youth MP (YMP)

Key activities

- Increase member and staff engagement with the YMP, also children in care and care leavers via the corporate parenting board. The YMP will be included in the membership of the corporate parenting board.
- Increase engagement with parents via the parent carer network.

The ongoing business of the council

Work with and challenge schools' performance to ensure that all are good or outstanding

Key activities

- Regular school improvement visits to all maintained schools through the leadership and learning programme.
- Co-construct with headteachers a coherent annual professional development programme based upon comprehensive data analysis.
- Ensure schools are familiar with the new Ofsted framework and are prepared for when routine inspections commence again.
- Raise standards of attainment at every key stage.
- Focus on raising standards of attainment for vulnerable groups such as those with special educational needs, those living in circumstances of relative poverty and those open to social care.
- Work closely with the regional schools commissioner to challenge performance in the academy sector.

Work with and challenge schools in financial deficit to secure a more sustainable position for the schools and the council.

Key activities

- Review the budgetary projections for every maintained school and intervene if and where necessary.
- Where schools are forecasting a future budget deficit, provide support and challenge through the finance and school improvement teams.

- Where necessary issue a notice of concern and intervene using formal processes to ensure good budget management.
- Maintain a focus on children's safeguarding practice to ensure a high quality of service with effective systems to protect children and keep them safe.
- Delivery of the early help strategy and action plan to support families in the community, through family hubs and the wider early help offer to prevent escalation into more costly statutory services.
- Ensure an effective and timely response to keep children safe and protected from harm, abuse and neglect, through consistent thresholds applied at the multi-agency safeguarding hub.
- A robust and effective quality assurance programme ensures that effective social work interventions are delivered in a timely way and where required.
- Effective managerial oversight ensures risks to children are understood and actions taken to mitigate those risks and needs.
- Delivery of children's social care transformation programme, embedding the Hampshire and Isle of Wight, incorporating strengths based, family focused support and practice informed by restorative practice and motivational interviewing, building safeguarding capacity through the resilience around families team (RAFT) to enable more children to live safely at home.
- Where children cannot remain safely at home, other permanent arrangements are established in a timely way that best suit the needs of the child.
- Implementation of a new social care case management system to improve both efficiency and accessibility to key safeguarding information.

Grow the number of foster carers and adoptive parents on the Isle of Wight.

Key activities

- Delivery of the modernising placement programme. This will include a detailed needs analysis to understand the needs of children in care. Design new care pathways that better reflect the needs of children on the island, enhance our foster carer recruitment by developing foster carer hubs that provide additional flexible support to foster carers when they need it most.
- Develop a psychological service embedding trauma informed care and develop an urgent and extended care model in conjunction with Hampshire colleagues.
- Continue to work with Adopt South to access a wider pool of prospective adopters to meet the needs of island children being placed for adoption.

We will use a range of indicators to measure how we are making progress such as:

- the number of children looked after at year end (per 10,000 of 0 to 17 year old population) (annual measure);
- the number of intermediate/advanced and higher apprenticeship starts in year (annual measure);
- the percentage of level 2/3 qualified adults (annual nomis data from ONS) (annual measure);
- the proportion of working age population qualified at NVQ level 2 or higher (annual measure);
- the percentage of early help cases closed with positive outcomes achieved. (annual measure);
- the percentage of children on a child protection plan that are then referred for a second or subsequent occasion. (quarterly measure);
- the percentage of primary schools graded as good or outstanding in the most recent inspection (not including schools with no inspection score);
- the percentage of secondary schools graded good or better in most recent inspection;
- the average attainment 8 measure at year 11 when compared to comparator authorities;
- the number of post-16/17s not in education, employment, and training (NEET) or the percentage of them;
- the percentage of care leavers in education, employment, or training (quarterly measure);
- the proportion of children living in poverty (all under 20).

Planning and community engagement

Development and maintenance of a high-quality planning service is a key priority for this administration. We are committed to ensuring the right level of development on the Island that meets our needs. Making sure that our communities have an effective voice in the decision-making process around for planning applications will be key features of our approach. We will also look to inform and advise on the restrictions which are placed on the local planning authority by national policies, and which may not always serve the needs of the community in the way we would wish to see it.

We are committed to bringing for the agreement of a new Island planning strategy by 2023 and this will be a major step forward for the Island enabling the right planning policies to be in place to secure a sustainable future as we progress over the next 15 years. Through this process we will ensure that all Islanders have a safe and secure place they can call home as part of welcoming, thriving and inclusive communities; this is one of the most important ambitions of a progressive planning and housing delivery approach we will develop within the council. The whole council will take an active part in addressing housing market failure to achieve our housing ambition.

The Island's unique attributes as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve recognise the importance of the local environment both national and internationally. Our planning policies will seek to protect and enhance these attributes and make sure that we are able to make much more of them in informing any policy decisions that we need to take.

We recognise the importance of enforcement in supporting the delivery of our planning policies and in helping to maintain the integrity of the Island's environment and support its businesses. We want to ensure that people no longer aim to 'game' the system and undermine the policies we will have debated at length with our community. We will continuously review our enforcement activities and look to develop new approaches to their delivery and look to secure whenever possible additional powers and funding to support these aims.

Councillor Paul Fuller
Cabinet Member for Planning and Community Engagement

The administration's aspirations

28

Review, enhance and improve our planning department to improve outcomes and adherence to statutory obligations

Key activities

- Complete a peer review of the service by April 2022 identifying areas of best practice and for improvement against comparator authorities. Implement an action plan in response to the recommendations of any review.

29

We will reduce the current proposed housing development numbers while ensuring we meet our local housing need.

Key activities

- Champion the adoption of a new Island plan based on housing targets evidenced to meet Island needs and compliant with legislation for adoption by September 2023.

30

Use the recent brownfield site data to identify housing opportunities.

Key activities

- Identify priority sites for development by March 2022 and work for start on site on some schemes by December 2023.

31

Only develop greenfield sites when absolutely necessary.

Key activities

- Develop by January 2022 an evidence framework to support any decisions to be taken in respect of greenfield sites not already allowed for in the draft Island Plan.

32 Accelerate the completion of the Island plan. The process to be followed will include meaningful engagement with residents and town and parish councils.

Key activities

- Complete all Island consultation on draft Island plan by and seek adoption through the formal process by September 2023.

33 Parish/town council representative(s) to sit on the Isle of Wight Council planning committee.

Key activities

- Amend the council's constitution to allow a representative from the relevant town, parish or community council to be a non-voting member of the committee and contribute to the debate on applications in its area, by July 2021.

The ongoing business of the council

Planning and building control regulatory and enforcement activity

Key activities

- Consideration and determination of planning applications.
- Building control service.
- Planning enforcement.

We will use a range of indicators to measure how we are making progress such as:

- the proportion of new housing development commenced on brownfield land (annual measure);
- the number of major planning applications received (quarterly measure);
- the percentage of all planning applications processed within timescales (quarterly measure).

Regeneration, business development and tourism

A key focus of our corporate strategy is to encourage new businesses to set up and existing businesses to expand on the Isle of Wight and to create sustainable jobs and wealth for the Island's community. This is essential for the Island's future prosperity and overall wellbeing especially as it looks to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We will aim to complete the council's planned regeneration schemes and attract at least 30 new businesses here as well as supporting 100 businesses to grow and develop at the same time. We will help create 500 new jobs over the lifetime of the plan. We will also make sure that the Island's residents benefit from this activity by having access to the right skills and training to support new and growing businesses. Recognising the value of all paid work in helping people fulfill their potential will be an important our economic and health and wellbeing approach.

We will build and grow our vibrant cultural sector, breathe new life into our high streets and make sure that the Isle of Wight continues to be a major UK visitor destination.

Councillor Julie Jones-Evans
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Business Development and Tourism

The administration's aspirations

34

Complete key regeneration projects to drive employment, skills and inward investment.

Key activities

- Secure development partner(s) for Newport Harbour by March 2023.
- New homes available at Newport Harbour by March 2024.
- Secure development partner for Shanklin Spa by May 2022.
- Establish actions in response to Island opportunities provided by the proposed Solent freeport – April 2022.
- Continue to market the Island technology park for opportunistic investments as part of the Solent freeport scheme.
- Secure infrastructure funding for Nicholson Road scheme by March 2024.

35

Engage with Business and communities on Island regeneration progress

Key activities

- Digital innovation centre to open in 2022.
- Pier Street, Sandown to open in 2022.
- Seek to secure Venture Quays planning permission for new homes 2023.
- Branstone Farm Business Park to open in 2022, with new homes available from October 2022.
- Camphill infrastructure improvements to be completed by March 2023.
- Establish and maintain Economic Development board sector sub-groups by December 2021.
- Stage an annual regeneration progress event in June 2022 and annually thereafter.
- Initiate regular business focused interactive communications (quarterly newsletters) starting November 2021.

36

Elevate the role of creative industries as part of our regeneration strategy.

Key activities

- Increase the value of the creative sector to the Island's economy by March 2023
- Increase the number of jobs in the creative industries by March 2025
- Establish resources to create an Island Cultural strategy
- Strengthen relationships with Historic England and the Arts Council

37

Use available powers to deal with long term empty or derelict buildings that mar our seafront and town centre areas.

Key activities

- Co-ordinating positive landlord engagement, enforcement and CPO powers with regeneration enabling capacity to identify clear plans for derelict buildings.
- In each year we will bring two of the most derelict properties, as identified by the local community, back into use or have them tidied up so that they are no longer a blight on the community.

38

Focus on regenerating our High Street and visitor economy to assist post COVID-19 recovery and growth

Key activities

- Through continued commitment to the HHSAZ in Newport and Ryde we will assess the impact of diverse uses, such as events and their potential to reinvigorate our other town centres.
- By 2025 we will have increased the number of people living in town centre locations.
- Work with Visit Isle of Wight to help increase year-round tourism and increase the quality of visitor attractions and accommodation, particularly sustainable and accessible tourism.
- Develop a sustainable and accessible tourism campaign approach to start in 2023.

39

Promote people-oriented place planning for town centres

Key activities

- By March 2023 in addition to the place plans already developed we will support the development of a place plan for the Bay area in collaboration with Lake, Sandown and Shanklin town councils and commence work on a place plan for the West Wight area.

The ongoing business of the council

Continue with our public engagement programme to underpin area-based social regeneration activities covering the whole Island.

Key activities

- Provide quarterly updates on progress with the regeneration strategy to policy scrutiny committee, business and resident databases.
- In areas without a place plan collaboration and communication focus undertake biannual community presentations in liaison with local town and parish councils.

Work with businesses and training providers to develop a plan for increasing the number of apprenticeship placements and reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training.

Key activities

- Working with Island Futures we will use external funding sources to deliver a range of apprenticeship and training opportunities such as the Government's kickstart programme.
- Support for the Island careers partnership and its efforts to link schools and business.

We will use a range of indicators to measure how we are making progress such as:

- the number of jobs on the Isle of Wight (annual measure);
- the number of visitors to the Isle of Wight (annual measure);
- the average gross weekly wage for an Isle of Wight resident (mean income level) (annual measure);
- new jobs created and protected by regeneration projects (annual measure);
- the number of jobs in creative industries (annual measure);
- the number of people living in new town centre locations (annual measure);
- the average number of out of work benefit claimants (per month) (quarterly measure);
- the average number of in person advice and guidance activities per month with business seeking to grow and develop the Isle of Wight (quarterly measure).

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Environment, heritage and waste management

The Isle of Wight has a unique environment which sets it apart from other areas of the country. Over 75 per cent of the Island is subject to some form of national environmental designation and over 50 per cent is classified as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Further, the whole Island has been designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, one of only seven in the UK. We will work to protect and enhance the Island's natural environment and make sure that all the decisions we take are consistent with this aspiration. We will look to further add value to the landscape by seeking dark skies designation for those areas of the Island where it is most appropriate and seek support from the local communities to secure this status.

We want to capitalise on these unique features to support our economic growth and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic without ever putting these special assets at risk. They will also be our catalyst for a focused approach to the climate change agenda and we will work across the council and with partners for the Isle of Wight to be carbon net zero by 2040. As part of this work, we will continue to drive up the already high recycling rates across the Isle of Wight and continue to reduce the amount of waste that we produce.

We will preserve and conserve our rich historic and cultural heritage and develop these assets in partnership with our communities and stakeholders, so that the Island's unique place is understood and celebrated and can act as a driver of regeneration and individual physical and mental health and wellbeing.

Councillor Jonathan Bacon
Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste Management

The administration's aspirations

40

Support and enhance our biosphere and AONB areas. Support the active management and development of biosphere status and secure dark sky status

Key activities

- Annually increase the number of trees planted and maintained from April 2022 in accordance with a new tree management and planting plan to increase biodiversity, green corridors and off set carbon impacts.
- Agree short term (from July 2022) and long term (from June 2023) environmental stewardship agreements (including tree planting) with Natural England.
- One part of the Island will have a dark sky space designation by March 2024 following the completion of a positive business case and with secured funds by March 2022.

41

Continue to develop successful waste management and increase recycling rates further

Key activities

- Increase the number of garden waste subscription services by April 2023.
- Annually reduce the volume of non-essential waste sent to landfill to achieve net zero by April 2025.

42

Commit to develop sustainable transport options with a focus on infrastructure to encourage active travel

Key activities

- Complete a local transport plan (LTP) 4 by April 2022 based on the need for long term sustainable transport options.
- Annually increase by 20 per cent from April 2022. the number of towns, parish and community councils with local walking and cycling infrastructure plans which can be used to support capital funding bids.

43

Promote the increased use of renewable energy in all sectors

Key activities

- Secure commitment from all stakeholders to improve grid connectivity to the mainland and a roadmap for its achievement.
- Prepare capacity planning study for the Island in relation to renewable energy by end of February 2022 including a heat network options analysis for the Forest Road energy recovery facility.
- Increase the capacity in the local supply chain to deliver low carbon and retrofit works as well as the tidal energy industry by December 2022.
- All council facilities to use 100 per cent green energy or onsite renewable generation where possible by March 2024.
- Use the procurement process to increase the proportion of suppliers to the council that use 100 per cent green energy or onsite renewable energy generation by March 2025.

44

Embed both the biosphere and the climate change strategy into policy, including the Island plan; advanced by appropriate action plans. All council decisions are to have regard to the biosphere and the climate change strategy

Key activities

- Publish and Promote the climate and environment strategy and fully launch 'mission zero' by April 2022.
- Introduce a new climate and environment impact assessment screening tool for corporate decisions by April 2022.
- Introduce climate change training modules to all staff, councillors and other stakeholders by August 2022 through the elearning hub.
- Introduce carbon literate climate ambassadors to support decision making; undertake and complete carbon literacy training by April 2023
- Publish a policy matrix detailing how the climate and environment strategy, the Island plan, the sustainable transport plan and the biosphere plan are aligned and mutually supportive of each other by July 2022. Together forming the means to guide the maintenance and use of the biosphere. This work will be supported and overseen by a biosphere steering committee drawn from all relevant sectors of the Island, including representatives of the environment, business, art and culture, and wellbeing.

The ongoing business of the council

Work towards the delivery of a new records office

Key activities

- We will plan and secure funds for the development of a new facility; construction works to start on site by April 2025, subject to the agreement to a full business case by March 2023.

Secure the future of the Island's geological collection by working with regeneration and investment partners

Key activities

- We will act to maintain the accreditation status of the collection at all times and work with relevant bodies to enhance its display wherever possible.

We will use a range of indicators to measure how we are making progress such as:

- carbon emissions (annual measure);
- increasing the number of Isle of Wight Council employees cycling or walking to work (when they attend a workplace) (annual measure);
- the number of Island schools and colleges participating in the Eco Schools Programme (annual measure);
- town and parish councils participating in the green impact programme (annual measure);
- the total number of garden waste subscribers (quarterly measure);
- the percentage of domestic waste diverted from landfill (quarterly measure);
- a reduction in residual (LACW) household waste per person (quarterly measure);
- the percentage of council facilities using green energy only or on-site generation (quarterly measure);
- the percentage of council suppliers using green energy only or on-site generation (quarterly measure);
- the number of fly tip incidents (quarterly measure);
- the number of fly tip actions taken (quarterly measure).

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Highways PFI, transport and infrastructure

Enabling all modes of transport connectivity both to and around the Island is extremely important to support our plans for the sustainable future and prosperity of Island residents, and in attracting visitors and future investment. Our new transport plan aims to provide an effective and safe transport network which is key to allowing accessibility for all, aiding active lifestyles, tackling congestion and air pollution as well as providing a unique visitor attraction.

The completion of the seven-year core investment period of the PFI contract has significantly improved the roads on the Island and we now have some of the best in the UK. We will work with our highways service partner Island Roads to continue to improve our highways infrastructure and ensure value for money services in the coming years. We will continue to work with transport partners as well as being an active partner in the infrastructure task force, and with our community to make the Island work for everyone.

The parking infrastructure and services provide value for residents in supporting sustainable transport outcomes and road safety. Working with our communities we will be looking at the balance between supporting thriving towns and the need to manage car parking provision safely and sustainably.

We will continue to manage our harbour assets to provide attractive and well managed services.

Councillor Phil Jordan
Cabinet Member for Highways PFI, Transport and Infrastructure

The administration's aspirations

45 We will aim to find a permanent working solution to Floating Bridge 6 (FB6) and, if appropriate, achieve this by scrapping and replacing it

Key activities

- Complete the contract dispute process as soon as possible without compromising the potential for further legal action.
- Commission an independent engineering report to establish the potential for FB6 to operate as was intended and a cost/benefit analysis of the outcomes by January 2022.
- Then by March 2022 either:
 - appoint an independent organisation to design a new floating bridge in consultation with the community; or
 - appoint an independent organisation to manage the necessary improvement works to make FB6 work as was intended.

46 We will aim to bring forward a comprehensive Island wide parking strategy by 2024

Key activities

- Liaise with all town and parish and community councils to agree suitable strategies and consultation processes.

47 Undertake an Island wide speed assessment project, including looking at all aspects of vehicle speed management, including 20mph zones and effective enforcement

Key activities

- Completion of the speed assessment project with recommendations on actions by October 2022 for implementation from April 2023 subject to funding being secured in the 2022/23 budget.

48

Establish a working group to consider the full range of options for appropriate charging and permits for parking

Key activities

- Establish joint councillor/staff group with agreed terms of reference by December 2021.
- Fully costed options to be produced by October 2022 for implementation in April 2023.

49

Ensure compliance with Island Roads contract and with all other external contracts.

Key activities

- Continue to effectively monitor and manage the PFI Highways contract following the completion of the core investment period.

50

Actively pursue a Government imposed public service obligation on cross-Solent services

Key activities

- Consult with the community to scope out what a public service obligation might encompass by June 2022.
- Complete dialogue with the Solent operators on the voluntary adoption of a public sector obligation by November 2022.
- If necessary, work with the Island's MP and Government to encompass the public service obligation in any legislation to be passed to 'level up' the Island with the mainland by December 2024.

The ongoing business of the council

Continue to work with the transport infrastructure board to improve infrastructure, public transport and mainland connectivity.

Key activities

- Produce an annual report highlighting the key improvements and successes of the partnership.
- Adopt and implement an enhanced bus partnership with bus operators by March 2022. Bids for grant funding to improve bus services on the Island from a £3 billion government grant scheme will follow the BEP.

Developing and delivering local safety-based highway improvement schemes through an annual capital programme of works.

Key activities

- An annual report to be produced on the delivery of schemes by October of each year.

Review the integrated transport plan – develop and delivery LTP4

Key activities

- Complete a draft local transport plan in consultation with the community by September 2022.

Continue to represent the Island on all transport related matters through partnership groups such as Solent Transport and Transport for South East.

Key activities

- Any key decisions to be taken by these groups will be referred to cabinet and the public made aware as and when required.

Continue to seek funding for improvements to the local traffic arrangements in the Undercliff area

Key activities

- Consultation with the local community on measures to tackle traffic in the local communities by September 2022.

We will use a range of indicators to measure how we are making progress such as:

- the average road condition index (WCCI) Cat 1 roads (annual measure);
- the average footway condition (annual measure);
- the percentage of category one emergency responses within two hours – (hazardous potholes, fallen trees, street lighting, etc.) (quarterly measure);
- the percentage of highways inspections undertaken (Sec 58 Highways Act compliance) (quarterly measure);
- the number of public transport users (quarterly measure);
- car park utilisation (quarterly measure).

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Isle of Wight Council

Corporate plan 2021

If you have difficulty understanding this document, please contact us on 01983 821000 and we will do our best to help you.



Purpose: To Note



Committee	FULL COUNCIL
Date	17 NOVEMBER 2021
Title	REPORT ON USE OF SPECIAL URGENCY PROVISIONS
Report of	LEADER OF THE CABINET

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is for the leader of the council, who chairs the Cabinet, to inform the council of details of each executive decision taken where the making of the decision was agreed as urgent in accordance with regulation 11 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

BACKGROUND

2. Normally at least 28 clear days' notice is required to be given before a "key decision" can be made by or on behalf of the Cabinet.
3. A "key decision" is an executive decision and one which is likely to result in the council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the council's budget for the service or functions to which the decision relates, or is likely to be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral divisions.
4. It is, however, not always practicable to give such advance public notice on the Forward Plan, and it is not always practicable to give public notice by way of the general exception procedure.
5. The law and the constitution, therefore, provides the procedure under regulation 11 ('cases of special urgency') of those regulations which requires obtaining the prior agreement from the prescribed person that the making of the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred. Permission is sought from the chairman of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee in such cases. Without such agreement, the making of intended decision would be delayed.
6. Under Section 18 ('General Exception Decisions and Urgent Decisions') of Part 3 ('Responsibility for Functions' of the council's constitution, the leader is required, following the taking of an urgent decision, to provide a full report to the next available

Full Council's meeting explaining the decision, the reasons for it and why it was treated as urgent.

7. Since the last meeting of full council, there has been one case of special urgency made under that regulation 11 (as at the date of writing this report – 9 November 2021).
8. The instance related to Covid Household Support Fund.
9. Councillor Steve Hastings, chairman of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, agreed the intended decision was urgent and could not reasonably be deferred. The urgency for the making of the intended decision was because the awards of funding need to be made in sufficient time for those who receive the funding to make the necessary arrangements to deliver the services, and the making of such intended decision cannot be reasonably deferred due to that timescale.
10. The executive decision was made by Councillor Debbie Andre, Cabinet member for Children Services, Education and Lifelong Skills. It was decided that the award of grant of £157,470 funding to schools, colleges and early years settings for them to purchase and provide one £15 voucher per child per week for the two-week October half term holiday for all children eligible for free school meals plus all children with a social worker, all children open to early help, all 2-4 year olds accessing Early Years Pupil Premium, be approved.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

11. Good governance arrangements are essential to the delivery of the council's services and the decision-making process that support this.

CONSULTATION

12. Councillor Hastings, Chairman of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee.

FINANCIAL / BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

13. There are no additional costs associated with the proposals contained in this report. The recommendations accord with the resources available within the overall budget agreed by Full Council in February 2021.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

14. Under regulation 19 (1) of the Local Authorities ((Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 an executive leader (ie the leader of the council) must submit a "regulation 19(1) report" containing details of each executive decision made when the making of the decision was agreed as urgent in accordance with regulation 11.
15. Such report must include particulars of each decision made, and a summary of the matters in respect of which each decision was made (see regulation 19 (2) of those regulations).

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

16. The council as a public body is required to meet its statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, promote equal opportunities between people from different groups and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. It is not considered that the content of this report has any negative impact on any of the protected characteristics.

RISK MANAGEMENT

17. The discharge of this duty eliminates any risk of challenge for not reporting.

EVALUATION

18. This report informs the council of the case of “special urgency” since the last meeting of Full Council.

RECOMMENDATION

19. To receive and note this statutory report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

20. [Regulation 11 notice dated 11 October 2021 and the written record of decision dated 15 October 2021.](#)

Contact Point: Christopher Potter, Monitoring Officer, ☎ 821000 e-mail christopher.potter@iow.gov.uk

CLAIRE SHAND
Director of Corporate Services

CLLR LORA PEACEY-WILCOX
Leader of the Cabinet

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Purpose: For decision

Committee	FULL COUNCIL
Date	17 NOVEMBER 2021
Title	LOCAL PENSION BOARD
Report of	MONITORING OFFICER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the revised terms of reference for the Local Pension Board and for appointments to be formally made to it.

BACKGROUND

2. The council is, by law, the administering authority and is required to establish a pension board under section 5 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and under section 106 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended).
3. The Local Pension Board is not a decision-making body and its statutory purpose of is, in effect, to assist the council (and more specifically the council's Pension Fund Committee) in ensuring the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Isle of Wight Local Government Pension Scheme.
4. The Board was established by decision of the Full Council on 21 January 2015 as from 1 April 2015, and a review has been recently undertaken, including a review of its terms of reference and the appointments process.
5. The suggested changes are, amongst other things, designed to make the terms of reference more reader friendly, not least through the inclusion of further headings, and to be more consistent and coherent.
6. The current terms of reference are set out on pages 44 – 46 of the council's constitution [PART 3 - Terms of Ref of Committees and boards.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#).

7. The review led to proposed revised terms of reference for the Local Pension Board as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
8. Another outcome from this review was the need to look at how appointments are formally made to the Local Pension Board, and to make clear that it is the responsibility of the council as the administering authority to make appointments, including when nominations have been put forward.
9. Due to the current vacancy situation, the Local Pension Board is presently not quorate, and to rectify this, a recruitment exercise is being undertaken at the time of writing this report (8 November 2021), with the intention of appointments being made by the Council on 17 November 2021.
10. Appendix 2 to this report contains (at the time of writing this report) the names of persons put forward for appointment and will be further revised once the recruitment process has further progressed.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

11. Good governance arrangements are essential to the delivery of the council's services and the decision-making process that support this.

CONSULTATION

12. This is ongoing at the time of writing this report.

FINANCIAL / BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

13. The costs of the Local Pension Board will be funded directly from the Pension Fund, and will have no direct impact on the council's budget at all.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

14. As set out in the report.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

15. The council as a public body is required to meet its statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, promote equal opportunities between people from different groups and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. It is not considered that the content of this report has any negative impact on any of the protected characteristics.

RISK MANAGEMENT

16. The council is required to ensure that the Local Pension Board is properly established and so this report is brought before the Council so that this obligation is met.

EVALUATION

17. This report informs the council of the need to make appointments and seeks to improve the terms of reference of the Local Pension Board.

RECOMMENDATION

18. That the revised terms of reference of the Local Pension Board in Appendix 1 be duly approved.
19. That the appointments to the Local Pension Board as set out in Appendix 2 (as revised) be duly approved.

APPENDICIES ATTACHED

20. Appendix 1
21. Appendix 2

BACKGROUND PAPERS

22. None.

Contact Point: Christopher Potter, Monitoring Officer, ☎ 821000 e-mail christopher.potter@iow.gov.uk

CLAIRE SHAND
Director of Corporate Services

CLLR CHRIS JARMAN
Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance, Corporate
Resources and Transformational Change

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Local Pension Board (4 - 8 members plus an independent chairman)**1. Establishment**

- 1.1 The Isle of Wight Council is the Administering Authority and Scheme Manager for the Isle of Wight Council Pension Fund, part of the Local Government Pension Scheme, as defined in s.4 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 ('the Act').
- 1.2 It has established the Local Pension Board ('the Board') under s.5 of the Act and regulation 106 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended), and the Board operates independently of the Pension Fund Committee
- 1.3 The Board is not a committee constituted under s.102 of the Local Government Act 1972 and therefore no general duties, responsibilities or powers assigned to such committees or to any sub-committees or officers under the Constitution, standing orders or scheme of delegation of the Administering Authority apply to the Board unless expressly provided.
- 1.4 The Board is accountable to the Scheme Manager and the Pensions Regulator.

2. Responsibility and Role of the Board

- 2.1 The responsibility of the Board, as defined by sections 5(1) and (2) of the Act, is to assist the Administering Authority as Scheme Manager in ensuring the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) including:
 - (a) securing compliance with the LGPS regulations and any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the LGPS;
 - (b) securing compliance with requirements imposed in relation to the LGPS by the Pensions Regulator; and
 - (c) such other matters as the LGPS regulations may specify.
- 2.2 The Administering Authority retains ultimate responsibility for the administration and governance of the scheme.
- 2.3 The role of the Board is to support the Administering Authority to fulfil that responsibility and secure compliance with any requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator.
- 2.4 In its role, the Board will have oversight of the administration and governance of the Fund including:
 - (a) the direction of the Fund and its overall objectives;
 - (b) the administration of benefits and contributions.
- 2.5 The activity of the Board can also include:

- (a) reviewing the Fund's governance and policy documents, for adoption by pension committee;
- (b) reviewing compliance with the Fund's governance and policy documents;
- (c) reviewing the administrative programme of the Fund as part of the Fund's annual report;
- (d) reviewing ACCESS pooling as part of the Fund's annual report;
- (e) reviewing the ongoing arrangements for the training of Board members;
- (f) reviewing the Fund's Risk Register, for approval by pension committee;
- (g) reviewing audit and assurance reports; and
- (h) reviewing the Fund's website and other communication methods.

3. Membership, Eligibility, Nominations, and Appointments

3.1 The Administering Authority shall determine its membership.

Minimum and Maximum Numbers and Types of Board membership

3.2 The Board shall consist of a minimum of four members and a maximum of eight members plus an independent chairman

3.2 No substitute members are permitted.

3.3 It is constituted with an equal number of employer representatives and scheme member representatives as follows:

- (a) Minimum of two, maximum of four, employer representatives
- (b) Minimum of two, maximum of four, scheme member representatives

Employer representatives

3.4 For the minimum membership size of four members (plus an independent chairman), one of the employer representatives shall be an elected member of the council. The other employer representative will be selected for nomination by the other employers of the Fund using the following process:

- (a) the Scheme Manager will seek nominations from all external employers
- (b) candidates will provide short biographies
- (c) employers will be asked to select their preferred candidate
- (d) the Administering Authority shall determine which candidate to appoint.

3.5 Should the total number of members increase, additional employer representatives will initially be sought from the council but may also be sought from the external employers of the Fund.

3.6 The Administering Authority must be satisfied that a person to be appointed to the Local Pension Board as an employer representative has the capacity to represent all employers.

3.7 No officer or elected member of the Administering Authority who is responsible for the discharge of any function of the Administering Authority under the Regulations may serve as a member of the Board. Board representatives must therefore not be members of the Pension Fund Committee.

3.8 Where an employer representative vacancy occurs the Administering Authority shall seek to appoint a replacement as soon as practicable.

Scheme representatives

3.9 One of the scheme member representatives shall be nominated by a recognised trades union, which is responsible for arranging its own nomination of a suitable candidate, representing both active and retired members. If more than one nomination is received from two or more recognised trade unions, all such nominations shall be put forward for the Administering Authority to determine who to appoint to such a vacancy.

3.10 For all other scheme member representatives, the council will undertake a selection process by requesting expressions of interest from all active, deferred and retired members, with nominations put forward for the Administering Authority to determine who to appoint.

3.11 The Administering Authority must be satisfied that a person to be appointed to the Local Pension Board as a scheme member representative has the capacity to represent all scheme members.

3.12 Where a scheme representative vacancy occurs the Administering Authority shall seek to appoint a replacement as soon as practicable.

Independent chairman

3.13 There shall also be an independent chairman, appointed by the Administering Authority.

3.14 The chairman must have no pre-existing employment, financial or other material interest in either the Administering Authority or any scheme employer, nor be a member of the Isle of Wight Council Pension Fund. Such a chairman has no right to vote.

3.15 Where a vacancy occurs for the independent chairman position, the Administering Authority shall seek to appoint a replacement as soon as practicable.

Vice-chairman

3.16 The Board may appoint a vice-chairman on an annual basis from amongst its own number or in-year should a vacancy arise.

3.17 In the event that neither the chairman nor the vice-chairman are present, the Board members present may appoint one of their number to preside for the particular meeting.

Conflict of interests

- 3.18 No one may be appointed to the Board who has a conflict of interest that is considered by the Administering Authority to be prejudicial to the exercise of their functions as a Board member.
- 3.19 It is the responsibility of the Board member to provide any information required by the Administering Authority in order to determine whether such a conflict exists (see also 4 below 'Register of Interests and Code of Conduct').
- 3.20 A conflict arises where a financial or other interest is likely to prejudice a person's exercise of functions as a Board member (but does not include a financial or other interest arising merely by virtue of membership of the scheme or any connected scheme).

Duty to comply with role profile and to attend arranged training

- 3.21 All Board members, whether scheme member or employer representatives, will be expected to comply with the role profile for Board members, published on the Pension Fund's website.
- 3.22 The Board shall establish and maintain a policy and framework to address the knowledge and skills requirements that apply to Board members under the Act and regulations. That policy and framework shall set out the degree of knowledge and skills required as well as how knowledge and skills are acquired, reviewed and updated.
- 3.23 Board members shall attend and participate in training arranged in order to meet and maintain the requirements set out in the knowledge and skills policy and framework. Where Board members attend external training, they will be required to provide a report back to the Board in order to share the knowledge gained with other Board members.
- 3.24 Following appointment, each member of the Board should be conversant with the legislation and associated guidance of the LGPS and any other document recording policy about the administration of the LGPS which is for the time being adopted.

Length of term of office and removal from office

- 3.25 The Chairman, each employer representative and each scheme member representative so appointed shall serve initially for a fixed four-year period from the date their appointment takes effect, which may be extended by decision of the Administering Authority for further four year terms, subject to remaining eligible, re-nomination and re-selection.
- 3.26 Any Board member can be removed by the Administering Authority for good cause. Without prejudice to the generality, it includes removal on the grounds of the employer representative appointed due to being a councillor ceasing to be an elected councillor for the Isle of Wight Council, the nominating body withdrawing their representative, a conflict of interest that cannot be managed, non-attendance, breach of code of conduct and non-participation in training.

- 3.27 Each Board member should endeavour to attend all Board meetings during the year and shall be required to attend at least two of the scheduled meetings each financial year. In the event of any Board member failing to do so, or other persistent non-attendance, (including failure to attend training sessions without reasonable cause) then the tenure of office of that member shall be reviewed by the Administering Authority.
- 3.28 Other than by ceasing to be eligible, a Board member may only be removed from office during their term of office by the Administering Authority.

4. Register of Interests and Code of Conduct

- 4.1 A register of interests is maintained by the Board to record and monitor its members interests and responsibilities.
- 4.2 The register of interests is reviewed annually by the Board and published on the scheme's website.
- 4.3 The principles included in the Isle of Wight Council Members' Code of Conduct shall apply to all members of the Board. Likewise, all other relevant Isle of Wight Council policies shall apply to members of the Board.
- 4.4 All Board members must declare to the Administering Authority on appointment and at any such time as their circumstances change, any potential conflict of interest that might arise as a result of their position on the Board, and complete a register of interests.
- 4.5 Where a conflict is identified, the Board and the Scheme Manager shall manage it by applying the principles contained within the Isle of Wight Council Members Code of Conduct (see Part 5 Section 3).
- 4.6 Where it is deemed impossible to manage a conflict, the Board member may be required by the Administering Authority to stand aside in relation to any specific issue being considered or, if necessary, resign their position on the Board or be removed by the Administering Authority.

5. Meetings

Frequency

- 5.1 There will be at least four Board meetings a year. Other meetings may be convened by the chairman with due notice as the Board determines.

Notice

- 5.2 The Administering Authority shall give reasonable advance notice to all Board members of every meeting of the Board which shall normally be at least 5 clear working days.
- 5.3 The agenda and supporting papers shall be distributed to members of the Board normally at least 5 clear working days prior to the meeting.

5.4 Any member of the Board may request that an item be added to the agenda for consideration, subject to that matter being relevant to the remit of the Board as set out in these terms of reference. Any items considered outside of the remit will be discussed with the chairman of the Board and the requestor notified of the outcome and rationale.

5.5 Subject to the requested item being valid, the Administering Authority will schedule the item of business for the next appropriate Board meeting, taking into account items already scheduled and the level of preparation. Note – if the next meeting of the Board is to be held within 28 days of receipt of the request, the item of business is unlikely to be scheduled before the following meeting.

Quorum

5.6 The Board has a quorum of three, requiring at least one employer representative and at least one scheme member representative to be present..

Holding of meeting

5.7 The Board's meetings will be open to the general public, unless there is an exemption under relevant legislation which would preclude part (or all) of the meeting from being open to the general public (see, for example, the Data Protection Act 2018). Meetings may be held either in person or remotely or a hybrid of the two methods at the discretion of the Board.

Voting

5.8 No member of the Board shall have a right to vote on any question unless that member is an employer representative or a scheme member representative.

5.9 It is expected the Board will as far as possible reach a consensus, but where a deadlock has been reached on any matter under consideration which has been the subject of a tied vote the matter shall be referred to the Pension Fund Committee and/or Administering Authority together with the views of the members on the matter.

Minutes

5.10 The Administering Authority shall ensure that a formal record of Board proceedings is maintained, whether in electronic format or in writing.

5.11 The draft minutes shall be circulated to all Board members, who will be given 21 days to comment, after which time the draft minutes will be published.

5.12 The accuracy of the final minutes shall be agreed at the next suitable meeting of the Board.

Publication

5.13 The Board's public papers including agendas and minutes of meetings will be published on the Council's website subject to the rules on access to information and the Data Protection Act 2018.

6. Advisers

- 6.1 The Board may be supported in its role and responsibilities by the appointment of advisers and shall, subject to any applicable regulation and other legislative provision, consult with such advisers to the Board to help perform its duties.
- 6.2 Any cost associated with the use of advisers to the Board must first be agreed with the Administering Authority.

7. Powers of the Board

- 7.1 The Board only has those powers granted to it under statutory provision and so only has a very defined and limited jurisdiction.
- 7.2 The Board has the power to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its statutory functions.
- 7.3 But, for the avoidance of any doubt whatsoever, and subject to 7.4 below, it is for the Administering Authority (and not for the Board) to determine the procedures applicable to the Board, including as to the establishment of sub-committees, formation of joint committees and payment of expenses.
- 7.4 No member of the Board shall have the right to vote on any question unless that member is an employer representative or a scheme member representative (see.5.8 above).

8. Reporting Duty of the Board

- 8.1 The Board shall provide an annual report to the Pension Fund Committee. The report shall include information on the business conducted by the Pension Board with any risks or concerns identified and mitigation steps proposed.
- 8.2 The annual report will also be published on the Pension Fund's website.
- 8.3 Any concerns requiring reporting outside the annual process should be raised with the Pension Fund Committee.

9. Budget and Expenses

- 9.1 The Board is to be provided with adequate resources to fulfil its role. In doing so the budget for the Board will be met from the Fund.
- 9.2 The Board shall seek the prior approval from the Administering Authority's Section 151 Officer for any expenditure to be made.
- 9.3 The expenses of the Board are to be regarded as part of the costs of administration of the fund held by the Administering Authority.
- 9.4 The Pension Fund may meet reasonable expenses of the Board. Such expenses will be met by the Fund and have regard to the Administering Authority's Members' Allowance Scheme.

9.5 But for the avoidance of any doubt, other than the independent chairman, Board members shall not receive an annual allowance of any kind in respect of being a member of the Board.

10. Accountability

10.1 The Board shall be collectively and individually accountable to the Scheme Manager.

11. Review of terms of reference

11.1 These terms of reference shall be reviewed on each material change to those parts of the regulations covering local pension boards and at least every four years.

11.2 These terms of reference were adopted on 17 November 2021.

NB. The following documents/regulations have been referred to in formulating the Board's terms of reference:

- Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) – Guidance on the creation and operation of Local Pension Boards in England and Wales (issued by the Shadow Scheme Advisory Board)
- The Public Service Pensions Act 2013
- The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations as amended
- Code of Practice No. 14 governance and administration of public service pension schemes (issued by the Pensions Regulator)
- The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) – Questions and Answers on Local Pension Boards (issued by the Shadow Scheme Advisory Board)
- Template Terms of Reference for a Local Pension Board (issued by the Shadow Scheme Advisory Board).

Employer Representatives

1. Cllr Michael Lilley
2. TBA
3. TBA

Scheme Representatives

1. Trevor Ould (nominated by Unison)
2. TBA
3. TBA

Independent Chairman

1. TBA

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Purpose: For Decision

Name of meeting	COUNCIL
Date	17 NOVEMBER 2021
Title	NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES
Report of	MONITORING OFFICER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The report is necessary to give effect to the express wishes of the leader of the Alliance group as to nominations for appointment of their group councillors to the Planning Committee.
2. At the time of writing this report (9 November 2021), there are no other changes proposed following any nominations received, but if there are any subsequent wishes expressed by any political group, these will be reported no later than at the meeting for appointment by the Council.

BACKGROUND

3. At the Annual Council meeting held on 15 September 2021 a review of the political proportionality was undertaken in respect of those bodies which are required to be politically proportionate.
4. The Alliance group have an allocation of 5 seats on the Planning Committee.
5. The leader of the Alliance group has expressed the wish that Cllr Downer be replaced with Cllr Lucioni as a permanent member on the Planning Committee.
6. No more than three substitutes may be appointed for each political group to the Planning Committee under Part 4B rule 5 of the constitution.
7. The Alliance Group presently only has one substitute on the Planning Committee, Cllr Medland.
8. The Alliance Group proposes to put forward three substitutes on the Planning Committee and those nominated will be put forward no later than at the meeting.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

9. Good governance arrangements are essential to the delivery of the council's services and the decision-making process that support this.

CONSULTATION

10. As set out above, this paper is as a result of the expressed wishes of the Alliance group leader and as such no further consultation is necessary. (This report also enables other expressed wishes by any political group to be given effect through appointment by the Council, and again no consultation is required).

FINANCIAL / BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

11. There are no additional costs associated with the proposals contained in this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12. Under section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the power to appoint elected councillors to committees is that of the local authority i.e. the council. (The power to appoint sub-committees rests with the parent committee).
13. This power to appoint councillors to committees (and indeed the power to remove councillors from committees) cannot be delegated by the Full Council to a committee or to any officer of the council or indeed to any political group, but must be exercised by the Full Council itself. This is because the power to make delegated arrangements under section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 is subject to any express provision contained in that Act or in any subsequent enactment, and section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 and section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 are such express provisions.
14. It is the duty of the council itself to exercise the power of appointment of elected members to its committees 'as soon as practicable'. The obligation on the Full Council is to give effect at the first practicable opportunity. Appointments are required to be made.
15. As it is only the council that can make appointments to its committees (and only the council has the power to remove) the council must, if it wishes to have any substitutes, appoint substitutes to its committees as political groups have no power to appoint, merely to nominate. The appointment of named substitutes (where such substitution is permitted by law and under the Constitution) has the merit of transparency and openness, and, as the council has already agreed that political groups should only nominate members as substitutes if they have had relevant training in the work of the committee, this approach enables training and resources to be better focussed and better discharges its fiduciary duty to ratepayers.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

16. The council as a public body is required to meet its statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, promote equal opportunities between people from different groups and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. It is not considered that the content of this report has any negative impact on any of the protected characteristics.

OPTIONS

17. To appoint Cllr Lucioni to the Planning Committee.
18. To appoint a maximum of three substitute members from the Alliance Group (to be named by the Alliance Group no later than at the meeting) to the Planning Committee.
19. To make appointments in accordance with any expressed wishes of the Alliance Group or the Conservative Group.

RISK MANAGEMENT

20. The recommendations are to ensure that the council meets its corporate governance requirements and responds to changing requirements and demands. These should lessen the risks arising from any challenge to the decision-making process by way of judicial review or other such legal action.

EVALUATION

21. Council has no option and must respect the duly expressed wishes of the respective political group and to appoint those nominated to their allocated seats.
22. An effective governance system for the council is essential to enable business to be transacted openly and in a timely manner. The appointment of elected members (including where appropriate substitutes) to its committees seeks to do this.

RECOMMENDATIONS

23. To appoint Cllr Lucioni to the Planning Committee.
24. To appoint three substitute members from the Alliance to the Planning Committee (to be named no later than at the meeting).
25. To give effect to any other nominations made by any political group as regards their allocated seats.

APPENDICES ATTACHED

26. None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

27. None.

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christopher.potter@iow.gov.uk

CLAIRE SHAND
Director of Corporate Services

CLLR LORA PEACEY-WILCOX
Leader of the Cabinet/Council