



Record of decision

**THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS WERE TAKEN ON THURSDAY, 15TH JULY, 2021
BY THE CABINET**

**THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THESE DECISIONS EXPIRES AT 5.00 PM ON
MONDAY, 26 JULY 2021**

Members of the Cabinet who were present

Cllrs L Peacey-Wilcox (Chairman), D Andre, J Bacon, P Fuller, C Jarman, J Jones-Evans, P Jordan, K Love and I Stephens

Members also present(non-voting)

Cllrs D Adams, G Brodie, C Critchison, S Ellis, K Lucioni, M Oliver, C Quirk, P Spink

Officers Present

John Metcalfe, Steve Crocker, Wendy Perera, Christopher Potter, Colin Rowland, Claire Shand, Carol Tozer, James Brewer, David Newton and Paul Thomas

Confirmed as a true record of decisions taken

Leader of the Council

Agenda item	Minutes
Decision reference	11 – 2021/22
Decision Taken	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2021 be agreed.

Agenda item	Declarations of Interest
Decision reference	12 – 2021/22
Decision Taken	Cllr Stephens declared an interest in Items 7 – 11 of the agenda, as his daughter was employed within the council's Children's Services Directorate.

Agenda item	Public Question Time - Maximum 15 Minutes for Written Questions and 15 Minutes for Oral Questions
Decision reference	13 – 2021/22
Decision Taken	<p>Written questions had been received from Mr M Ambrosini (PQ 33-21), Mr & Mrs A Dowden (PQ34-21) and Mr D Coughlin (PQ 36-21). The Leader confirmed that they would receive a written response. Dr J Lockwood attended and read out his written question (PQ35-21) and the Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste Management provided a response.</p> <p>An oral question were received from Cathy Foulkes of Ryde, relating to the Ryde Interchange project. The Leader confirmed that a written response would be sent.</p> <p>An oral question was received from Cameron Palin of East Cowes relating to the island's biosphere status. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste Management provided a response and confirmed that the Island Plan consultation document would reference the biosphere status.</p>

Agenda item	Chairman's Announcements
Decision reference	14 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The Chairman reported that she had been working hard on a number of things and would report back in due course. Thanks were also expressed to the Cabinet and staff for their support especially during COVID.

Agenda item	Mobile Home Licensing Fees Policy
Decision reference	15 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The Deputy Leader presented the report and explained that there were currently six residential sites with approximately 250 pitches on the island. A recent change in legislation meant that as well as ensuring the sites were safer and appropriately managed, the local authority could charge fees. The Licensing Department would not make a profit but would charge the fee on a cost recovery basis. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had noted the report.
Decision Taken	Option 1 – To adopt the proposed Mobile homes Licensing

	Fees Policy (at Appendix 1).
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	To comply with legislation and to ensure cost recovery for the council.
Options considered and rejected	Option 2 – to adopt the policy with amendments that are deemed necessary. Option 3 – not to adopt the proposed policy.

Agenda item	Quarterly Performance Report Q4
Decision reference	16 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	Cabinet Members noted the report.
Decision Taken	That Cabinet approves the Performance Report – Quarter ended 31 March 2021 and the priority report detail as set out in the Appendices.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	Ongoing management and monitoring of performance data, the council's strategic risk profile and financial situation is required to support the successful delivery of agreed council priorities.
Options considered and rejected	None.

Agenda item	Consultation on the closure of the 6th Form at Carisbrooke College
Decision reference	17 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet Member for Children's Services explained that this was, in effect, a paper exercise. The 6 th Form had closed in 2016 but still technically existed. The education provision was still available.
Decision Taken	That the Cabinet approves the publication of a Public Notice for the alteration of the upper age range so as to remove the Sixth Form at Carisbrooke College with effect from 31st December 2021.
Reason for the	All students allocated to Carisbrooke College have now left

decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>the Sixth Form and all Sixth Form students are now registered under Medina College. There are no post-16 students registered under Carisbrooke College.</p> <p>The Governing Board is therefore considering an alteration of the upper age range so as to remove the sixth form at Carisbrooke College and the school changing its age range from 11-19 to 11-16.</p> <p>There will be no detrimental effects on students or staff from this proposal.</p>
Options considered and rejected	None.

Agenda item	Post 16 Transport Policy Statement
Decision reference	18 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	There was a statutory requirement to review the Post-16 Transport policy every year. There were no changes to be made this year.
Decision Taken	To approve the proposed 2021 Post-16 Transport Policy Statement as set out in Appendix 1.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	The policy statement fits within the Council's commitment to the Outcome in the 2019-2022 Corporate Plan that "All young people will have the best start in life so that they can fill their potential," It supports students with learning difficulty or disability to continue into post 16 training or education.
Options considered and rejected	Not to approve the proposed Post-16 Transport Policy Statement as set out in Appendix 1.

Agenda item	School Term Dates 2022-2023
Decision reference	19 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>The original consultation had run from 7 January to 26 February 2021. Ten responses had been received mostly from primary headteachers. Seven felt that the October break needed reviewing. Head teachers would prefer a two-week Christmas break.</p> <p>A further shortened consultation had recently taken place with headteachers. 31 had responded, 11 of which referred</p>

	<p>to the views of their staff. The majority had stated that they would prefer a two-week break at Christmas, with a one-week October break. The majority view had therefore been recommended for approval. It was important to achieve a balance and ensure adequate breaks for staff and it was felt that there was value in a longer Christmas break. Staff needed to be able to plan ahead.</p> <p>The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had recommended to Cabinet that a further consultation be undertaken due to concerns that parents' preference was for an additional week's holiday in October rather than the majority preference from the schools, via their headteachers, for an additional week at Christmas.</p>
Decision Taken	Option 1 – To approve the proposed calendar for term dates 2022/23 as in Appendix 3.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	Raising educational achievement is a priority of the council as set out in the council's Corporate plan. The standardisation of dates helps all schools to plan effectively.
Options considered and rejected	Option 2 – To approve an alternative calendar to that set out in Appendix 3.

Agenda item	Amendment to Academic Year 2021/22 to include extra Bank Holiday
Decision reference	20 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	It was explained that the amendment to the term dates for 2021/22 was required as a result of the extra Bank Holiday in 2022 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
Decision Taken	To approve the proposed updated calendar for term dates 2021/2022 as set out in Appendix 2.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	Raising educational achievement is a priority of the council as set out in the council's Corporate Plan. The standardisation of dates helps all schools to plan effectively.
Options considered and rejected	To approve an alternative calendar to that set out in Appendix 2.

Agenda item	Decision Paper for Specialist Provisions for Sept 21 and update on Public Consultations
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Decision reference	21 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet Member summarised the report. There were to be eight places at Brading primary school for pupils with complex learning difficulties, and 15 places at Medina College for pupils with serious social, emotional and mental health needs. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had welcomed the proposals.
Decision Taken	Option C. To increase the number of resource provisions by two with one at Brading CE (Controlled) Primary and the second at Medina College as outlined in this report Both resource provisions agreed.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	This proposal supports outcomes in the “Our Island Our Vision Corporate Plan 2019 to 2022”. In particular, the proposal contributes to the development of a well-educated and skilled community and helps to ensure all young people have the best start in life.
Options considered and rejected	Option A – no additional resource provisions agreed. Option B – One resource provision agreed.

Agenda item	Ryde Transport Interchange Project Delivery
Decision reference	22 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport explained that a joint funding bid had been submitted three years ago and the council had entered into partnership arrangements with Portsmouth City Council. The island would benefit with approximately £10 million for the project. Consultation would now take place, with the final decision to be made after responses had been evaluated. There had been a historical issue with public engagement but this would now be addressed. The matter would come back to Cabinet in September to be properly considered, unless a decision was required before that, in which case a special meeting would be held. An amended Option 2 was recommended by the Cabinet Member which was agreed.
Decision Taken	OPTION 2: That the findings of the public consultation are reported to a future meeting of the cabinet to inform a final decision on the detailed design of those elements of the project to be implemented by the council. All other matters to be delegated to the Director of Neighbourhoods as above so as to advance the project prior to this decision.

Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>The proposals for the Ryde Transport Interchange support the vision and aims of the Corporate Plan, through promoting the opportunity for Growth, further Regeneration beyond the scope of this project, and enabling Opportunity through better links with the Portsmouth city region. The revitalisation of the Ryde Transport Interchange will help promote wellbeing through promoting active travel and significant improvements to the associated infrastructure.</p> <p>Ryde Gateway has been earmarked as the council's flagship regeneration project within its overall 2019-2030 Regeneration Strategy for the Isle of Wight. Together with the Ryde Place Plan it has identified a set of strategic challenges and opportunities to the town and its future.</p>
Options considered and rejected	<p>OPTION 1: That authority is delegated to the Director of Neighbourhoods to: finalise the design and materials for those elements of the project to be implemented by the council informed by the findings of the public consultation, terminate leases as necessary to complete land assembly in a timely manner and to instruct implementation of works subject to construction costs being within the available funding and TCF programme window.</p> <p>OPTION 3: The cabinet vote to halt the project (including the railway station and the tramway pier elements as DfT are funding the whole package for completion by March 2023) by bringing all currently contracted work to an appropriate close to retain some return on investment for the council where possible, and return the funding. This would have a significant impact on the image and reputation of the Isle of Wight and make it very difficult to attract further funding for the foreseeable future.</p>

Agenda item	Draft Island Planning Strategy Consultation
Decision reference	23 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>The draft strategy was seen as an opportunity for a full consultation on what was wanted in local communities on the island. The number of dwellings to be built had reduced to 486 per annum. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had formally supported the proposals regarding the consultation and had requested that a task and finish group be established, to include Councillors from the Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Neighbourhoods and Regeneration, to formulate a submission as part of the consultation process, which would be reported to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on 7 September 2021 for</p>

	<p>approval. There would be a nine-week consultation period to end on 1 October. Town and Parish Councils would be asked for feedback and it was planned to take the consultation 'on the road' as it was important that residents should be able to give their opinions on the Island Plan and how it would work in their areas. The background papers listed in the report would be made available for public scrutiny. Thanks was expressed to planning officers for their work in producing the draft plan, which had also received some involvement from the island's MP.</p>
<p>Decision Taken</p>	<p>Option 1 - to agree the revised draft Island Planning Strategy (as attached) for public consultation to run from 30 July until 1 October.</p> <p>To delegate any final editorial and presentational changes to the Island Planning Strategy to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing and the Director of Regeneration, so long as they do not materially alter the intention of the version agreed by Cabinet.</p>
<p>Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with</p>	<p>Once adopted the local plan can be a positive tool in contributing to achieving a wide range of outcomes. In many instances however, the local plan cannot achieve the outcomes by itself and should be seen as one of the tools available to the Council to achieving its desired outcomes.</p> <p>Through the approach towards land-use and the planning policies within it, the local plan can contribute significantly to the delivery of a wide range of Council priorities. It can also support the delivery of a number of other core corporate strategies, particularly the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Regeneration Strategy, the Housing Strategy and the emerging Environment and Climate Change Strategy.</p>
<p>Options considered and rejected</p>	<p>Option 2 – to agree an alternative version of the draft Island Planning Strategy for public consultation to run from 30 July until 30 September.</p> <p>Option 3 – to agree an alternative version of the draft Island Planning Strategy for public consultation to run at a later date.</p> <p>Option 4 – await the content of the Planning Bill and progress a revised Island Planning Strategy under the new legislation.</p>

Agenda item	Contribution to Development of Southampton City of Culture Bid 2025
Decision reference	24 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Cabinet member for Business and Regeneration thanked staff for dealing with the matter quickly. Cultural regeneration was one of the key priorities of the council and this was an opportunity to bring forward partnership arrangements with Southampton City Council. Cities of Culture were high profile for regeneration and through place plans the island had shown that it had a sense of pride. A meeting had been held with the bid director who had been overwhelmed with what the island could offer. It was proposed that an application would go to government in the next week, then in September applications would be shortlisted to six, following which a full business case would be prepared. The final six would receive £50,000 from government to help put their business case together. In January 2022 the final two would be decided and the final one announced in May 2022. This was an exciting opportunity which Southampton had been working on for a number of years. It would support cultural regeneration on the island and promote its biosphere status. It would bring together many cultural organisations on the island together. It was reported that 30 per cent of employment on the island was in the cultural sector. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had welcomed the significant opportunity afforded by the Council's involvement and fully supported the proposed recommendation. It was clarified that the council would only give £10,000 per year if the Southampton bid was successful.</p>
Decision Taken	<p>Option 5 - To support the Southampton 2025 expression of interest for the UK City of Culture bid by confirming the Isle of Wight as a regional partner and providing an initial £10,000 contribution for this purpose, from within the existing budgets available for strategic partnerships.</p> <p>To instruct council staff to work with the bid team to identify the most appropriate programme of activities to take place, should the bid be successful, to support the Island's cultural regeneration and maximise the economic and cultural benefits for the Island.</p> <p>Should the SO2025 bid be successful, delegate the decision regarding further council support of £50,000 to support Island implementation of the bid's proposed activity programme to the Cabinet member for Regeneration and Business Development. then the additional funding as a</p>

	<p>regional partner of £10,000 per annum for the five years up to and including 2026 be the first call on the council's regeneration budget in each of those years.</p>
<p>Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with</p>	<p>Active participation in the City of Culture bid also fits with our latest Corporate Plan 2019-22 which with the corporate priorities of growth, regeneration, opportunity and wellbeing. The strategic aim for the bid is economic regeneration based and reflected in the Council's adopted policies.</p> <p>The Isle of Wight identifies as part of the Solent economic region and works in close partnership with neighbouring authorities on areas of common concern and opportunity.</p>
<p>Options considered and rejected</p>	<p>Option 1 - No financial Contribution from the Council – This option is not recommended as it would not assist the chances of the bid to win the competition. This option would be seen as a lack of commitment to the process and would damage the potential for securing funding from other sources. If the bid were still successful there would be indirect benefits to the Island of visitors to the area in 2025 choosing to spend some time on the Isle of Wight.</p> <p>Option 2 - Lower financial contribution – This option is not recommended as it is anticipated that a lower financial contribution would be damaging to the bid application and would not be seen as favourable during the judging process, showing a lack of ambition to win the title.</p> <p>Option 3 - Higher financial contribution – This option is not recommended. A higher contribution could be used positively, but the model to develop the funding request focused on using comparator data to develop an evidence-based request and the justification for a higher contribution is not considered to be viable.</p> <p>Option 4 - Delay the decision on funding until post the Award of the Title – The Council could defer its decision on providing funding until post the award to the winning location. However, this option is not recommended as it would damage the potential for the bid to win the competition. This option would be seen as a lack of commitment to the process, other competitors with confirmed neighbouring Local Authority funding would be placed in a stronger position within the bid process.</p>

Agenda item	Cabinet Member Announcements
Decision reference	25 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs thanked all those who participated in the opening of Howard House, which was to provide 17 high quality units for homeless people. Cllr Mosdell had greatly contributed in her previous role. The Health Care Bill had its second reading in parliament this week, and would have a significant impact on Adult Social Care. The council would be inspected by the CQC in future which would give assurance to residents. There had been much discussion regarding vaccinations. At 1 July, 84 per cent of care home workers had received their first vaccination, and 79 per cent had received the second dose. It was suggested that people travelling to and from the island took a Lateral Flow test in order to track and trace if necessary.</p> <p>Cllr Brodie confirmed the importance of the approval of local residents for the provision of homeless facilities, as was the case in his ward, unlike other areas of the island where opposition had been received. The Cabinet Member agreed and commended the people of Pan for their support.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance, Transformational Change and Resources advised that examination of the council's finances and policies was continuing, and expressed thanks to the Assistant Chief Executive and audit staff. The Kickstart programme was being expanded to provide 45 new placements for young people on benefits to help them into the workplace. A capacity review had been initiated with the utility companies on the island and there had been several recent issues. It would encompass all utilities with the support of the MP. A meeting was to be held with senior staff from Southern Water regarding capacity as this would help with future planning to feed into the Island Plan. Work methods for legal processes were to be revised and work was being undertaken to bring these into effect. A paper would be brought to Full Council in the future.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Business and Regeneration thanked the Regeneration team for their input into Howard House. The Council had received some European funding of £2.8 million for the business hub at Cowes. A site visit had been carried out and was positive. A press release was due out shortly.</p>

The Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste Management reported that he would shortly be publicising a number of measures regarding the summer litter campaign, which had the support of the Welcome Back programme. There would be increased bin emptying and beach cleaning. Nine seasonal attendants had been employed who would report any issues. A fly tipping task and finish group had been set up with 10 other councillors, with an action plan to be produced. A report would be brought forward later in the year.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills praised school staff and students for their work over the last year and wished them all a happy summer holiday.

The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport reported that he continued to work on the management of the PFI contract in a partnership way, with service delivery at the centre. A speed review was being conducted and many emails had been received. The review would continue until the end of the year, and no decision would be made on individual areas until it had been concluded. Work was continuing on looking at the Floating Bridge operation. A bid had been submitted to extend the railways on the island. A response was awaited from the Department for Transport.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Digital Transformation reported that as part of his brief he had attended a Police and Crime Panel meeting and had spoken with the Police and Crime Commissioner, who undertook to focus more on the island and its policing issues. It was also reported that the newly combined Hampshire and IW Fire & Rescue Service had undertaken to upgrade some of its buildings. A conversation had taken place with the Chief Fire Officer who would ensure that necessary repairs were carried out and the island would get what it had been promised. There would now be a precept payable for the fire authority, which may increase next year.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing reported that there had been many planning applications and enforcement issues during the last few months, with March being the busiest month nationally. It was now hoped to unlock the backlog and residents' patience was requested. It was hoped that if the Planning Act was to come into force in October, the council could do more in relation to bringing empty homes back into use. The Cabinet Member

	had engaged with Housing officers and had been brought up to speed with his new portfolio and had learned a great deal.
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Agenda item	Consideration of the Forward Plan
Decision reference	26 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	There had been a few recent issues with the Forward Plan, however this had now been rectified and there would be more items added in the coming weeks.
Decision Taken	There had been a few recent issues with the Forward Plan, however this had now been rectified and there would be more items added in the coming weeks.

Agenda item	Members' Question Time
Decision reference	27 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	Written questions had been received from Cllr Hendry (MQ 10/21) and Cllr Spink (MQ 11/21) in relation to Planning matters. Both would receive written responses. There were no oral questions from any other Councillors.
Decision Taken	Written questions had been received from Cllr Hendry (MQ 10/21) and Cllr Spink (MQ 11/21) in relation to Planning matters. Both would receive written responses. There were no oral questions from any other Councillors.