



# Record of decision

**THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS WERE TAKEN ON THURSDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER, 2021 BY THE CABINET**

**THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THESE DECISIONS EXPIRES AT 5.00 PM ON MONDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 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 G Brodie, A Garratt, S Hastings and D Pitcher

Officers Present

C Ashman, L Gaudion, S MacDonald, J Metcalfe, C Potter

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

**Leader of the Council**

<b>Agenda item</b>	Minutes
Decision reference	28 – 2021/22
Decision Taken	<u>RESOLVED:</u>  That the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2021 be agreed.

<b>Agenda item</b>	Declarations of Interest
Decision reference	29 – 2021/22
Decision Taken	Councillor Jordan declared an interest in minute 32 – Quarterly Performance Report.  Councillor Bacon declared a pecuniary interest in Minute 34 as he was a D-Bid payer.

<b>Agenda item</b>	Public Question Time - Maximum 15 Minutes for Written Questions and 15 Minutes for Oral Questions
Decision reference	30 – 2021/22
Decision Taken	<p>A written question was received from Mr P Coueslant (PQ 38-21). The Leader indicated that a written reply would be sent.</p> <p>No oral questions were received.</p>

<b>Agenda item</b>	Chairman's Announcements
Decision reference	31 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Chairman reported that today had been Emergency Services' Day. The Chairman's thanks were expressed to the Chairman of the Council, Cllr Brodie, and staff for arranging to mark the day with a flag-raising ceremony to recognise the work of the emergency services. Cllr Brodie reported that it was the first time a recognition day had been held on the island and that a permanent flagpole was also being arranged for St Thomas's Square in Newport. It was hoped that there would be some media coverage to raise public awareness.</p> <p>The government were intending to develop county deals and devolve powers to local geographical areas and were looking for areas to undertake a pilot scheme. The council had not initiated any county deals discussions with other councils as its current focus of was the completion of the Island Deal.</p> <p>The council had been successful in the Public Sector Transformation Awards and had been awarded Bronze in Communications for the roll-out of the NHS COVID app, and Silver in the Community category for the COVID response with partners, establishing 30 partner hubs. Both awards were a testament to staff and the benefits of partnership working in communities.</p>

<b>Agenda item</b>	Quarterly Performance Monitoring Report - Q1
Decision reference	32 – 2021/22
Summary of	The report covered the period to the end of June 2021. It

Discussion	was noted that the Corporate Scrutiny Committee had made some comments and it was confirmed that the budgetary situation was being reviewed in order to achieve the administration's objectives, and that the points raised would be taken into consideration in meetings over the next few weeks and fed into that review.
Decision Taken	Option 2: Cabinet approves the Performance and Finance Report – Quarter ended 30 June 2021 and Finance Report Quarter ended 31 March 2021 and the priority report detail as set out in appendices 1-9, together with the council's financial position as set out at 10-13.
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 council priorities. As such, this report provides the Cabinet (and subsequently the council's scrutiny function) with the necessary information to record achievements and challenge areas of underperformance and to account for it to the wider community.
Options considered and rejected	Option 1: Cabinet does not approve the Performance and Finance Report – Quarter ended 30 June 2021 and Finance Report Quarter ended 31 March 2021 and the priority report detail as set out in appendices 1-9, together with the council's financial position as set out at 10-13.

<b>Agenda item</b>	Deployment of Discretionary Business Support Grant
Decision reference	33 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	Funding had been received from the government to help businesses affected by COVID. There was still £273,947 to be spent by 31 March 2022. A number of activities and projects which would benefit from the funding had been identified following discussions with the Economic Development Board. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had noted the proposal.
Decision Taken	Option A - To support the remaining COVID discretionary business grant funds being committed in the area set out in paragraphs 12 to 17 above with details to be agreed by the Cabinet member in consultation with the Isle of Wight Economic Development Board Executive.

Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>The council is currently reviewing its Corporate Plan to reflect the key objectives of the new administration.</p> <p>Supporting growth in the economy. Ensuring that all resources are used in the most effective way.</p> <p>Supporting the Island economy and local business is a key priority.</p>
Options considered and rejected	<p>Option B - To retain the unspent grant to provide individual grant payments to businesses at a later date (but before 31 March 2022).</p> <p>Option C - To not spend the remaining grant and return the unspent sum of £273,947 to government.</p>

<b>Agenda item</b>	Council support to Visit IOW in progressing D-BID 2
Decision reference	34 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>Cllr Bacon withdrew from the meeting for this item, having declared a disclosable pecuniary interest.</p> <p>The Council had been asked to support Visit Isle of Wight in preparing for a ballot for the D-Bid. There was a strict formal process to be followed, and voting was due to take place in September/October this year. As a payer of business rates, the cost to the council would be £13,000, however it was believed to be beneficial for tourism and for the island as a destination. If the ballot was unsuccessful further research into other funding sources would be undertaken. Members were happy to support the recommendation, however they felt it would be necessary to try and raise the level of satisfaction with the D-Bid's outputs from 60%. Dissatisfaction was attributed to a number of factors including ferry performance and roadworks throughout the island. Smaller businesses would be encouraged to take up more of the advertising offered as part of the D-Bid.</p> <p>The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had supported the proposal.</p>
Decision Taken	Option A - To support the D BID proposition, agree to run and manage the legal processes necessary to undertake the ballot of potential levy paying businesses, agree to cast its votes in favour of the D BID proposition and set aside

	the funds required to pay the levy if successful.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>The council is currently reviewing its Corporate Plan to reflect the key objectives.</p> <p>Supporting growth in the economy Ensuring that all resources are used in the most effective way</p> <p>Tourism is a key component of the island's economy and any proposition seeking to sustain and grow the visitor economy would support the council's objectives.</p>
Options considered and rejected	Option B -To not support the D BID proposal.

<b>Agenda item</b>	Referral of Motion from Full Council - Newport City Status
Decision reference	35 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Shaping Newport Steering Group had agreed with Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council that the bid should go forward. Members agreed with the proposal. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had made no comment as the matter was to be debated the following week at Full Council.</p>
Decision Taken	<p>Option 3: Support the motion and lead the preparation of a bid contingent on assistance towards the development of the bid being provided as part of the Shaping Newport Steering Group.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Option 4: The bid to be approved by those delegated to act on behalf of the Isle of Wight Council, NCCC and the Shaping Newport Steering Group.</p>
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>The Alliance Group's priorities are yet to be formally agreed via cabinet and will set the direction for the council for the next four years.</p> <p>As currently set out, covid recovery is a key priority and the council recognises that the Island does benefit from a strong community spirit which was demonstrated through the covid pandemic. In terms of recovery civic pride is important to our community and this motion may provide an opportunity to build civic pride.</p>

Options considered and rejected	<p>Option 1: Not to support the motion.</p> <p>Option 2: Support the motion, conditional upon the council securing agreement from Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council to prepare the submission for nomination.</p>
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<b>Agenda item</b>	Climate & Environment Strategy
Decision reference	36 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Strategy was the result of a motion to Full Council in 2019 and was a very comprehensive document. The accompanying action plan contained 160 actions. Both documents would be continually reviewed and amended to correspond with scientific developments. Some of the actions were due to be completed prior to the first review after 9-months. The strategy was seen as part of a wider process ensuring sustainability for the island, fitting in with other existing and forthcoming strategies and plans, which would improve health, the environment and economic opportunity. Members hoped that any opportunity for offset would be dealt with locally, and it was suggested that offset arrangements for new home builds should be included in the Island Plan. Grant funding and joint working would be necessary to achieve some of the actions proposed. It was believed that the target of 2035 for schools was realistic. Funding had already been obtained for upgrading some council buildings which would fulfil the commitment made. Branstone Farm was a good example of sustainability and it was hoped that there would be more mixed-use developments in the future.</p> <p>Thanks were recorded to staff members Natasha Dix and Holly Jones for their work on the strategy.</p> <p>The Corporate Scrutiny Committee had fully supported the strategy.</p>
Decision Taken	<p>Option 1: Agree to adopt and support the Climate Change and Environment Strategy and Action Plan with the following commitments:</p> <p>(a) The aim to meet the target dates, as set out in the Strategy, to be net-carbon zero:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• as a council by 2030,</li> <li>• across the school estate by 2035 and</li> <li>• as an Island by 2040;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(b) To provide for the required staff resources to manage the co-ordination and the delivery of the Action Plan, of £94,314 (through the 2021/22 budget process).</li> <li>(c) The resources already committed within existing council service plans and budgets.</li> <li>(d) The development of business cases, applications for grants and other external funding for future projects to fulfil other council and community led actions.</li> <li>(e) A full Strategy review and update, for publication every two years.</li> <li>(f) The Action Plan is reviewed as and when required and in the first instance within the first nine months.</li> <li>(g) The delegation to commence the projects within the Action Plan, subject to available resources, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste.</li> </ul>
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>The Corporate Plan 2019-22 sets out 12 overarching outcomes that support the corporate priorities of Growth, Regeneration, Opportunity, Wellbeing. The Climate and Environment Strategy support the outcomes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The environment and unique island characteristics are celebrated – though supporting and enhancing our natural environments and developing carbon offset through a combination of biodiversity net gain, planting schemes, rewilding and supporting enhanced marine biodiversity.</li> <li>(b) The community feels safe and resilient – through energy and water resilience and supporting residents to ensure their homes are well insulated, energy efficient and adapted to protect from colder winters and warmer wetter summers</li> <li>(c) The island is a leading UK visitor attraction – through supporting low carbon growth, reducing range anxiety for electronic vehicle owners and enhancing the island as an outdoor destination</li> </ul>
Options considered and rejected	Option 2: As per option 1 but with the agreement to adopt

	<p>the Climate Change and Environment Strategy with all targets for the council, schools' estate and wider Island at 2030:</p> <p>The financial scale of the strategy to achieve the schools and island targets by 2030 are such that it is currently unaffordable to pursue as the council acting alone and will require a national government and private sector response.</p> <p>This affordability gap is significantly increased by an island wide target of 2030 and national policy does not support the delivery of net zero carbon by this date.</p> <p>Option 3: Do not approve the Strategy</p> <p>The UK has pledged to meet net zero by 2050. It is highly likely national policy will be updated in the future to reflect this target and mandate councils to take appropriate actions. The council could wait for national policy to make changes to service delivery and decide not to adopt a specific Climate Change Policy or Action Plan and not take advantage of the opportunities arising out of providing a leadership role for the Island.</p>
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<b>Agenda item</b>	Cabinet Member Announcements
Decision reference	37 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs reported that, following the recent announcement from government about measures to address Adult Social Care, he believed that, although a step in the right direction, it would not address the employment issues in the sector on the island. More information was still needed but it was believed that next year's budget would still have to be cut. Other councils had similar concerns. The Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance, Corporate Resources and Transformational Change was also dissatisfied with the announcement as it would have financial implications and additional burdens for the council. The government had failed to release a costing analysis and this was still awaited. There had been no indication of the island's allocation but the majority of the funding would go to the NHS. A lot of the data would not be available until at least the fourth quarter. Although there would be some winners, it was believed that the island would be disproportionately disadvantaged.</p>

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Lifelong Skills reported that there had been a focused Ofsted visit to Children's Services, looking particularly at Children in Need and children subject to Child Protection Plans. The team had set up a new social work model and had received a favourable report which would improve children's circumstances.

A report would come to Cabinet in October regarding options for the future of Chillerton and Rookley Primary School. It would be recommended that a 6-week consultation should take place and all responses would be fully considered before a report in Spring 2022 setting out the outcomes with the proposed next steps and timeframe.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Business Development and Tourism reported that work was continuing on the Culture and Regeneration Strategy, and that 20 Expressions of Interest for the Shanklin Spa site had been received.

The Cabinet Member for Highways PFI, Transport and Infrastructure reported that comments received regarding Ryde Interchange consultation were currently being considered and would be incorporated in the final draft scheme. There had already been some minor changes to the original scheme. It was agreed that although it was mainly a transport plan, there were some public realm issues within it

An update was given on the floating bridge. The matter would be moving to mediation before the end of November. A technical report was being commissioned to assess the extent of the problems and potential cost of rectification. No decision would be taken on the future of the floating bridge until the technical report had been received. May 2022 would be the fifth year of its operation and would be due an inspection by the MCA, the cost of which would have to be borne by the council.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Provision reported that Island Plan roadshows were taking place. 13 had been done and a further 27 were still to be held. A total of 365 residents had so far been engaged. Thanks were expressed to Planning officers for their help and support and to Town and Parish Councils and community libraries who had hosted the roadshows.

The Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste Management reported that potential funding routes were

	<p>being explored to enhance the environment and the biosphere. A 'green levy' was a potential solution but would not be a tourist tax as had been indicated in the media. The idea was in the early stages and currently only in principle.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance, Corporate Resources and Transformational Change reported that the council's legal team had been accredited under the Lexcel scheme, by the Solicitors' Regulation Authority, having achieved 25/25 determinations of good practice. The legal team were commended by the Cabinet.</p>
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<b>Agenda item</b>	Consideration of the Forward Plan
Decision reference	38 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The forward plan was discussed. Although it was necessary to provide sufficient information on each item, the format would be reviewed to ensure that all information contained within it was factually correct before being published.

<b>Agenda item</b>	Members' Question Time
Decision reference	39 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>Cllr Garratt asked a question regarding St Mary's junction (PQ 13-21) and a summarised response was provided verbally, a full reply would be sent in writing.</p> <p>A supplementary question was asked regarding whether the Cabinet Member for Highways PFI, Transport and Infrastructure would carry out a full review of the scheme, including safety issues at the Forest Road pedestrian crossing, and bring a report back to Cabinet at a future date.</p> <p>Cllr Garratt asked a further question regarding the Council Tax Support Scheme and how the poorer could be supported through the hardship fund. A full written reply would be sent.</p>