



Record of decision

THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS WERE TAKEN ON THURSDAY, 10TH MARCH, 2022 BY THE CABINET

THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THESE DECISIONS EXPIRES AT 5.00 PM ON MONDAY 21 MARCH 2022

Members of the Cabinet who were present

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

Members also present(non-voting)

Cllrs D Andre, M Beston, G Brodie, S Ellis, S Hastings and P Spink,

Officers Present

John Metcalfe, Christopher Ashman, Simon Bryant, Steve Crocker, Laura Gaudion, Wendy Perera, Christopher Potter, Claire Shand, Roger Brown and Jayne Tyler

Confirmed as a true record of decisions taken

Leader of the Council

Agenda item	Minutes
Decision reference	115 – 2021/22
Decision Taken	<u>RESOLVED</u> That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2022 be approved.

Agenda item	Declarations of Interest
Decision reference	116 – 2021/22
Decision Taken	Cllr Jones-Evans declared an interest in item 5 (a) relating to the Armed Forces Covenant as both her parents were military veterans. Cllr Jarman declared an interest in Item 5 (a) relating to the

	<p>Armed Forces Covenant, as his father was a military veteran, and also in Item 7 (b) relating to the Dementia Strategy as his father was under the care of the local authority and Wightcare.</p> <p>The Leader declared an interest in item 5 (a) relating to the Armed Forces Covenant as her husband was an ex veteran along with other family members.</p>
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Agenda item	Public Question Time - Maximum 15 Minutes for Written Questions and 15 Minutes for Oral Questions
Decision reference	117 – 2021/22
Decision Taken	<p>A written question to the Leader had been submitted by Charlie Sherwood (PQ 04-22). A written reply would be sent.</p> <p>A written question was submitted by Mathew Ambrosini (PQ 05-22). The Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Business Development and Tourism gave a verbal response.</p>

Agenda item	Chairman's Announcements
Decision reference	118 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>The Chairman announced that as part of National Women's Day the suffragette flag had been raised at County Hall. The Chairman had attended a meeting of the unions earlier in the week</p> <p>The Alliance group had donated money to the Ukraine appeal and had been helping to collate items to be sent to those affected. The group would continue to work with senior management to make preparations in the event that refugees were to be sent to the island. The IW College students had been loading up trucks to go to the Ukraine with items donated. The Alliance group would continue to wear flags of support.</p> <p>The Chairman had attended a meeting with a government minister regarding an upcoming announcement in relation to the marine industry. A press release would be issued shortly.</p> <p>The Chairman had been invited to speak to a group of</p>

	<p>mainly teaching staff regarding women in leadership roles. Thanks had been expressed to them for keeping children educated through the pandemic.</p> <p>The Chairman had attended a Safer Streets Meeting. Delighted that £450k for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight had been won for a Violence Against Women campaign. Better CCTV coming to the island to make people feel safe.</p> <p>The Chairman was expecting a new granddaughter and may soon be taking a short time out to spend time with her family.</p>
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Agenda item	Armed Forces Covenant
Decision reference	119 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The Leader stressed how important it was to support the Armed Forces, and she was pleased that the island now had a veterans' hub in Ryde. It would soon be the 40 th anniversary of the Falklands war and the Leader would be keen to mark the event in some way.
Decision Taken	Cabinet approves the signing of the Armed Forces covenant and that the Leader of the Council be given delegated authority to effect the signing.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>The Armed Forces Lead Engagement Officer has been working with senior members of the council's HR team to ensure that the council's recruitment offer is an equitable offer for those leaving the Armed Forces or spouses and partners of serving members of the Armed Forces.</p> <p>People and Organisational Development Strategy V5 references the Armed Forces Covenant in the Recruitment and Retention section, to reflect that potential future employees from this area are supported to find ways into employment with the Council.</p>
Options considered and rejected	Cabinet does not give approval to sign the Armed Forces Covenant.

Agenda item	Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Grant Recommendations Easter 2022
Decision reference	120 – 2021/22

Summary of Discussion	<p>Ten providers had come forward from community and voluntary groups to provide a variety of holiday activities for children across the whole of the island. Although it was primarily aimed at children in receipt of free school meals, any spare places could be offered to children in the wider community. Clarification was given that, although the provision in rural areas depended on providers coming forward, groups across the whole island had been approached.</p>
Decision Taken	<p>Cabinet approves the award of grants to the organisations identified in Appendix 1 to this report to a total value of £63,344.80.</p> <p>In the event that a provider is unable to fulfil the funded number of places or has to amend its offer in the light of Covid, it is recommended that the Cabinet Member delegates approval to the Director of Children’s Services to reallocate any underspent Easter HAF grant funding to ensure an Isle of Wight wide offer, within the grant allocation for Easter of £64,223. Any such reallocations will be determined in consultation with the Cabinet Member.</p>
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>The aim of the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme is to support benefits-eligible free school meal children and young people to eat more healthily, be more active over the school holidays and have a greater knowledge of health and nutrition as well as be more engaged with school and other local services. The Corporate Plan 2021-2025 has a core value to engage 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.</p> <p>The HAF Programme will support the work of the community as the Council looks to rebuild the social, economic, and environmental wellbeing of the Island’s community. The families participating in HAF schemes are central to planning future delivery, which continues to evolve and improve due to ideas from feedback received. The Programme will continue to build links and work closely with parish and town councils to help and support them to empower and support their local communities.</p>
Options considered and rejected	<p>Not to award funds and decline to claim the funding being made available by the Department for Education for the</p>

	benefit of lower income and vulnerable children and families on the Isle of Wight.
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Agenda item	Director of Public Health Annual Report
Decision reference	121 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The effect of COVID19 on mental health and wellbeing was the focus of this year's annual report, which contained a number of recommendations that had been drawn up in consultation with partners.
Decision Taken	To note the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2021. To approve the report recommendations made by the Director of Public Health as set out in the report.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	The 2012 Health and Care Act places a statutory duty on upper tier Local Authorities to improve and protect the health of their residents. The Director of Public Health has a statutory duty to produce an annual report about the health of the local population. The content and structure of the report is decided each year by the Director of Public Health, based on key issue of health and wellbeing that would benefit from a focused review. The requirement placed on Isle of Wight Council as the relevant local authority is to publish the report.
Options considered and rejected	None.

Agenda item	Isle of Wight Dementia Strategy
Decision reference	122 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The strategy was the result of ongoing consultation over many months with colleagues and partners from the health and independent sectors. If approved, it would be underpinned with an action plan to ensure the strategy was workable for the future. It was noted that the strategy focused on family and unpaid carers and the lack of adequate respite care. Clarification was given that steps were being taken to recruit and train professionals to specialise in dementia. It was recognised

	<p>that nationally there was a challenge to recruit and retain staff in this area, and it was hoped to commission expert training in dementia care.</p> <p>More emphasis was to be put into prevention to enable more people to live happy, healthy lives.</p> <p>It was agreed that this was needed now for the island's ageing population and it was good to see that more respite care was planned. Thanks was expressed for the work in preparing the strategy.</p>
Decision Taken	Cabinet approves the system wide Isle of Wight Dementia Strategy, enabling the strategy to progress for approval by the Integrated Care Partnership.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	To provide the greatest opportunity for improved and jointly developed pathways of care and support for people living with dementia. Shared system priorities will lead to better outcomes for vulnerable local residents. It would also benefit from the ongoing oversight and scrutiny from the Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Health and Social Care and from voluntary sector partners to ensure effective implementation.
Options considered and rejected	<p>Option 2 - Cabinet does not approve the Isle of Wight Dementia Strategy. This would allow existing poor health and care pathways to remain. This option would not enable the system to develop and improve to meet the future dementia needs of the Isle of Wight.</p> <p>Option 3 - Cabinet suggests that all statutory organisations including the council develop their own dementia strategy. This option would fail to offer the opportunity for social care services to be aligned with the mental health transformation programme, leading to potentially disjointed services and a missed opportunity for shared system priorities.</p>

Agenda item	Isle of Wight Council Digital Strategy 2021-2026
Decision reference	123 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The council's current strategy was coming to a natural end. The new strategy was the result of wide ranging internal and external consultation, and a framework had been established with a working group proposed to be set up to co-ordinate the programmes and plans within it. There were four key themes of Digital Island, Digital Council,

	<p>Digital Citizens and Digital Intelligence.</p> <p>ICT was ever changing therefore nothing was set in stone but would evolve with new legislation and new ways of working.</p> <p>The work done to prepare for agile working had been heralded a success as the island had not felt the challenges of other local authorities who had not been so well prepared for the lockdown and remote working.</p> <p>It was suggested that the heading at the top of pages 302 to 313 of the strategy 'Digital Island Potential Activities' be deleted so as to indicate that they were substantive, rather than potential items. This was accepted.</p>
Decision Taken	That Cabinet approves the Isle of Wight Council digital strategy 2022 – 2027 and establishes a programme board led by the portfolio holder for digital transformation. That board will be responsible for the establishment of the associated strategy action plan in line with stated outcomes and provide the strategic oversight of business case developments and resulting project delivery.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	This strategy is fundamental to the delivery of the council's agreed corporate plan 2021 – 2025 and its stated priorities. With digital technology being an enabler of change and improvement, it has the potential to contribute to every part of the council's vision to work together openly and with our communities to support and sustain our economy, environment and people.
Options considered and rejected	Option 2: To refer the digital strategy for further consideration.

Agenda item	Cabinet Member Announcements
Decision reference	124 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet Member for Planning and Community Engagement reported that, following a motion agreed previously at Full Council a letter had been sent and a response received from the Rt Hon Stuart Andrew, which had been circulated to Cabinet members this afternoon. The next day the first briefing relating to the Island Plan would be delivered to all members of the council with a further briefing on 25 March which would include representatives from IWALC. Following this, a report would be prepared and the plan shared with the Corporate

Scrutiny Committee before Cabinet would make recommendations to Full Council. Following this, there would be further consultation by the Planning Inspectorate. The council would ensure that residents were made aware of the further consultation.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Lifelong Skills reported that there had been an excellent response to the consultation on term times for the year 2023/24, which was due to end on 18 March. A report would be prepared for Cabinet on 12 May 2022.

The Cabinet Member for Highways PFI, Transport and Infrastructure reported that despite what had been written in the press and on social media, the council had not walked away from mediation in relation to the floating bridge, it was continuing via the mediator.

The Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance, Corporate Resources and Transformational Change reported that a letter had been received from Secretary of State Gove regarding the situation in Ukraine. It was confirmed that the council was ahead of the game and reassurance was given that none of the council's pension investments were with Russia.

A streaming service had been established at the crematorium, which tied in with the Commercial Strategy. When the strategy was considered by Cabinet within the next few months this would be examined more fully. Public praise had been received for the direct cremation service at £450, which it was believed would help many people with the current financial challenges.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health reported that it was World Social Workers' Day on 15 March and on 17th a day of remembrance was to be held to remember the social care workers who died during the pandemic.

All care homes run by the local authority had received a CQC rating of 'good'.

A meeting had been held with Integrated Care Systems (ICS) which was progressing well, with a strategy being developed and moving forward. Thanks were expressed to the council's Scrutiny Officer for his work at a national level with scrutiny and how it would work within the new ICS.

The Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Digital

Transformation, Housing Provision and Housing Needs reported that the council's Beta website was up and running in some areas. There would be a 'soft' launch for councillors in the near future. The installation of new Teams software and equipment was being rolled out across County Hall meeting rooms. The council's current telephony contract was coming to an end and replacement systems were currently being looked into. In other areas, praise was given to Regulatory Services staff for the way they had adapted to various other roles during the pandemic. The Coroner's Service and staff based at Jubilee Stores would shortly be moving to different premises. The Safer Streets funding would bring enhanced CCTV to Ryde. There had been a case of avian flu on the island, which was being investigated; bird owners were asked to be cautious and follow the council's website for updates and information..

The Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste reported that there had been a serious fly tipping incident in Porchfield. The culprit had been found and issued with a fixed penalty notice. Details of how to report fly tipping would be going out to the public via the press. The fly tipping Task and Finish group was still in hand but had been slower than hoped due to all the other work going on. It was hoped that within the next month or so batteries would be able to be collected on waste day to avoid having to take them to supermarkets for recycling, and following on from that, it was hoped that small electrical appliances would also be collected.

A Tree Strategy was to come forward in early summer, in line with the climate strategy. For every tree lost, two would be planted. A Climate and Environment Board was soon to be set up.

Compton Bay had been voted the second best location for stargazing in the UK. This fitted well with the dark skies policy.

Encouragement was given for completion of the Beaver consultation, which had been delivered to the public and which included consideration of flooding issues.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Business Development and Tourism reported on a number of issues, which included a meeting with the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership, exploring the value of culture and creativity. 36 practitioners had signed up to the Island Creative Network. It was suggested that on the island 30 per cent of

	<p>the workforce was in the creative industry.</p> <p>Other items of note included trying to bring back a Post Office to Newport and the re-launch of the Green Impact Programme to improve environmental sustainability for businesses.</p> <p>The consultation on proposals for the future use of Newport guildhall would finish at the end of the week, and the Newport Harbour consultation was due to finish on 21 March.</p> <p>Good progress was being made with the Branstone Farm development. Fifteen new homes were nearing completion and interest had been expressed in the industrial units.</p> <p>Government SALIX funding would be use to mitigate the energy price rises faced in council buildings. Medina Leisure Centre was to utilise more solar power by May 2022.</p> <p>Visit Isle of Wight had facilitated a recent visit by Ainsley Harriott and Grace Dent for a future TV programme around island food venues.</p>
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Agenda item	Consideration of the Forward Plan
Decision reference	125 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	The Forward Plan was noted and no amendments were made.

Agenda item	Members' Question Time
Decision reference	126 – 2021/22
Summary of Discussion	<p>Four written questions had been received from Cllrs Hendry (MQ 06-22), Spink (MQ 09-22), Pitcher (MQ 10-22) and Brodie (MQ 07-22)</p> <p>Cllrs Hendry and Spink were not present and their questions would receive a written response.</p> <p>Cllr Pitcher was present and the Leader read out his question and the written response.</p> <p>Cllr Brodie was not present and the Leader read out his question. The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and</p>

	Public Health gave a verbal response, a copy of which would be sent to Cllr Brodie following the meeting.
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