



Record of decision

The following decisions were taken on **TUESDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2007** by the **CABINET**

THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THESE DECISIONS EXPIRES AT 5.00 PM ON THURSDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2007

Members of the Cabinet who were present:

Cllrs David Pugh (Chair), Barry Abraham, George Brown, Dawn Cousins, Tim Hunter-Henderson, Diana Tuson, Alan Wells

Members also present (non-voting):

Cllrs Henry Adams, David Knowles, Geoff Lumley, Erica Oulton, Susan Scoccia, Arthur Taylor, David Williams, Jilly Wood

Confirmed as a true record of decisions taken

Leader of the Council

Agenda item	Minutes of the Last Meeting
Decision reference	27/07
Decision Taken	The minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2007 were agreed.
Questions/Amendments	None.

Agenda item	Public Question Time
Decision reference	28/07
Questions	<p>Mr David Miller asked a written question regarding whether detailed education proposals for January 2008 would ensure adequate resources were made available to minimise disruption. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People provided a response stating that the Council would do all it could to minimise any disruption to learning as the proposed changes moved forward (PQ 49/07).</p> <p>Mr Miller asked a supplementary question asking for clarification on the wording in Option 1 regarding 'two points of transition' and whether this would mean that earlier plans for 4-14 schools would not be pursued under this option. The Cabinet Member provided a response.</p>

	<p>Mr Clive Page asked a question regarding concessionary fares and whether there was access to additional funding for Island's. The Cabinet Member provided a response stating that the Council had successfully applied for a grant.</p> <p>Mr Clive Page asked a question regarding the duplication of routes by Southern Vectis. The Cabinet Member suggested that Mr Page raise this with the bus company.</p> <p>Mr Bob Blezzard asked a question regarding the Councils relationship with Southern Vectis and the 50p and £1 bus ticket proposals. The Leader and Cabinet Member provided a response stating that there was a need to ensure a fair deal for the tax payer. The guidance was clear that the bus company must not be any better or worse off as a result of concessionary fares. The Cabinet Member explained that the £1 bus fare was not viable and was addressed in the budget speech.</p>
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Agenda item	School Organisation – Options for Change
Decision reference	29/07
Summary of Discussion	There was a discussion around the need for change from the current school structure and how this had been communicated. The Cabinet Member stated that change had to take place as there was not enough collaborative working in the current system. The Cabinet Member recommended that Option 4 should not be pursued. A report detailing the consultation with timetable and content would come before the Cabinet on 8 January 2008 at which point full consultation would begin. A final decision would be made in March 2008.
Decision taken	<p>THAT the Cabinet recommend that Full Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. confirm that change has to take place. ii. ask officers to prepare a consultation on Option 1, the Single leadership and governance post 14 and 9-14 Middle Schools, and Options 2 and 3, the Primary/Secondary Models A and B. iii. agree that a report detailing the consultation with timetable and content be brought to the Cabinet on 8 January 2008.
Reasons for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>To ensure that the Island has a school system that meets current and future needs.</p> <p>To conform with statutory processes and proceed with the next stage of consultation.</p> <p>To align with the corporate objective to 'improve outcomes for children and young people'.</p>

Options considered and rejected	To ask officers to prepare a consultation on Option 4, the Primary 4-11; Lower Secondary 11-14; Upper Secondary 14-19 (Single leadership and governance post 14)
Declarations of Interests	None.

Agenda item	2008/09 Concessionary Fares Scheme
Decision reference	30/07
Summary of Discussion	There was a discussion around the concessionary fares scheme. The Cabinet heard that there had been positive feedback from residents on the proposal to fund free bus and rail travel on the Island for Island residents suffering severe and enduring mental illness.
Decision taken	<p>i. THAT the Cabinet agree to provide the concessions outlined in Options 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, in addition to the statutory minimum, to all eligible persons from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009. These additional concessions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue to fund free bus travel to Island residents during peak travel periods (before 9.30 am and after 11.00 pm Mon-Fri). • To fund free bus travel to non-Island residents during peak travel periods (before 9.30 am and after 11.00 pm Mon-Fri). • To continue to fund free rail travel to Island residents during peak and off peak travel periods. • To fund free bus travel to those accompanying Island and non-Island residents for assistance purposes during peak and off peak travel periods. • To fund free bus and rail travel during peak and off peak periods for Island residents suffering severe and enduring mental illness. <p>ii. THAT the Cabinet agree to Option 9 – to amend the reimbursement arrangements in line with the Councils revised calculations (a Generation Factor of 108.16% and a Reimbursement Percentage Level of 48.05%) and follow the statutory procedure for introducing it. This would entail granting delegated authority to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve Notice upon bus operators in accordance with the prescribed statutory requirements and deadlines; • Prepare and publish in all media forms as is considered necessary, any notice to vary the reimbursement arrangements; • Defend any appeal made by a bus operator against the proposed revisions to the reimbursement arrangements; • Enter into and conclude any negotiations with bus

	<p>operators during the Appeal period in an attempt to reach a settled agreement on reimbursement arrangements for 2008/2009.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine any changes to final reimbursement arrangements (if any) publish and serve notice of such final reimbursement arrangements in accordance with the prescribed statutory requirements and deadlines. <p>*Note. Any authority granted in respect of the above is to encompass those actions and decisions required to be taken with respect to both the mandatory and non-mandatory elements of the Concessionary Fares Scheme.</p>
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>To continue efforts to tackle congestion and social exclusion and improve the Island's bus network.</p> <p>To align with the corporate objective 'to improve the health and well being of Island communities'.</p>
Options considered and rejected	<p>Option 1 - to provide no additional travel concessions.</p> <p>Option 2 - to fund free rail travel to non-Island residents and those accompanying non-Island residents for assistance purposes either during peak and/or off peak travel periods.</p> <p>Option 8 – to continue to reimburse bus operators using the current reimbursement arrangements.</p>
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	Planning Service Peer Review Performance Improvement Plan
Decision reference	31/07
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet Member praised the work of the Building Control Manager in Appendix 2 of the report. The Cabinet Member updated the Cabinet on current vacancies in the planning service and stated that a new development control planning officer had now been appointed. The work of the Scrutiny Committee was recognised as being helpful in ensuring the Cabinet Member was made aware of some of the issues to be addressed within the planning department.
Decision taken	THAT the Cabinet agree to Option 3 – to endorse concentration on the service improvements set out in Appendix 3 of the report.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>To have an efficient, consistent and respected planning service to deliver sustainable development through the statutory Local Development Framework and the Development Control process.</p> <p>To align with the corporate objective 'to be a high performing cost effective council'.</p>

Options considered and rejected	Option 1 – not to implement the recommendations of the PAS report. Option 2 – to implement the recommendations in full.
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	Quarterly Performance Management Report – Quarter 2
Decision reference	32/07
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet Member was concerned that there was still some information missing as identified by the grey boxes in the report. The Cabinet Member suggested that he spend some time with the Chief Executive and the relevant Directors in addressing this. The targets would be looked at to ensure that they were realistic and useful.
Decision taken	THAT the Cabinet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. approve the Quarterly Performance Management report iii. agree the recommendations as listed from A) – F) in the report.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	To ensure that the Council meets it's targets. To align with the corporate objective 'to be a high performing cost effective council'.
Options considered and rejected	None.
Declarations of Interests	None Declared.

Agenda item	Strategic Risk Quarterly Report – Quarter 2
Decision reference	33/07
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet considered the strategic risk profile at the end of the second quarter 2007/08.
Decision taken	THAT the Cabinet note the report.
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	To ensure that the Council manages its risks. To align with the corporate objective 'to be a high performing cost effective council'.
Options considered and rejected	None.
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	Quarterly Financial Report – Quarter 2
Decision reference	34/07
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet considered the Councils financial position and service performance during the second quarter of 2007/08.
Decision taken	<p>THAT the Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. note the overall monitoring position on the Revenue Budget and Capital Programme ii. agree the revised revenue budget for 2007/08 and Budget virements as set out in Appendix 1 and 2 of the report
Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	<p>To achieve best value in delivery of the Councils services.</p> <p>To align with the corporate objective ‘to be a high performing cost effective council’.</p>
Options considered and rejected	None.
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	Undercliff Options
Decision reference	35/07
Summary of Discussion	The Cabinet Member explained that if the Council went ahead with the scheme it would be very costly and would only provide a temporary solution. There was a discussion around the timescale of the scheme and the options that would be considered within option f.
Decision taken	<p>THAT the Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. agree to option f – Inland Route and Work on A3055. Undertake a detailed survey of the alternative route via Whitwell in order to ascertain to what extent it would need improvement to make it suitable to function as part of the Strategic Road Network (SRN), including the feasibility of bringing the route up to principal A road standards. Investigate options for Undercliff Drive which may include maintaining single lane working, closing the road at particular points or investigating options for developing a “green way” along Undercliff Drive. ii. confirm to the Secretary of State that the Council do not wish to proceed with the Compulsory Purchase and Side Road Orders. iii. continue to discuss funding options with Government Office South East (GOSE) and the Department for Transport (DfT).

Reason for the decision and corporate objective it aligns with	To provide a long term solution for the Island. To align with the Councils corporate objective 'to create safer and stronger communities'.
Options considered and rejected	Option A – to do nothing Option B – to continue with current scheme Option C – to maintain and repair Undercliff Drive Option D - Engineered Solutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on existing alignment • a combination of the existing alignment with a revised alignment in certain areas Option E – look at an alternative inland route with do nothing on the Undercliff Drive.
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	Consideration of the Forward Plan
Decision reference	36/07
Amendments / Additions / Removals	None.
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	Delegated Decisions
Decision reference	37/07
Questions	No questions were received.
Declarations of Interests	None declared.

Agenda item	Members Question Time
Decision reference	38/07
Questions	No questions were asked.
Declarations of Interests	None declared.