



Meeting	Council
Date and Time	Thursday, 20th August, 2026 at 6.30 pm.
Venue	Council Chamber, Castle Hill, Winchester SO23 8UL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held at 6.30 pm on Thursday, 20th August, 2026 in the Council Chamber, Castle Hill, Winchester SO23 8UL and all Members of the Council are summoned to attend.

Note: This meeting is being held in person at the location specified above. Members of the public should note that the meeting will be streamed live to the council's You Tube channel (www.youtube.com/WinchesterCC).

A limited number of seats will be made available at the above named location, however attendance must be notified to the council at least 3 working days before the meeting. Please note that priority will be given to those having registered to speak during the Public Question session over those wishing to attend and observe. Please note that Questions must be received in writing by Democratic Services (democracy@winchester.gov.uk) prior to **10am**, five working days preceding the day of the council meeting.

AGENDA

1. **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held on 20 May 2026 and the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 2 June 2026** (Pages 11 - 22)

2. **Disclosure of Interests**

To receive any disclosure of interests from Councillors or Officers in matters to be discussed.

Note: Councillors are reminded of their obligations to declare disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs), other registerable interests (ORIs) and non-registerable interests (NRIs) in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.

3. **Announcements from the Mayor, Leader and Chief Executive.**



4. **Questions from Members of the Public**

To receive and answer and questions from the public.

(Questions must be received in writing by Democratic Services –

democracy@winchester.gov.uk – no later than 10am on Thursday 13 August 2026)

5. **To receive petitions**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 22, a petition was submitted by Katy McNally containing 667 signatures.

Halt the £153,000 River Park Perimeter Path Project

Statement:

We the undersigned petition the council to immediately pause all works, suspend the funding allocation, and launch a meaningful public consultation to allow the community to protect our green space.

Justification:

We, the undersigned resident, stakeholders and users of River Park Recreation Ground, call on Winchester City Council to halt and reconsider its decision to allocate up to £153,000 of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding towards a new all-weather perimeter path (Cabinet Report CAB3518).

This decision was based on a consultation in 2021 and therefore does not reflect current public opinion.

We object to the proposal for two principal reasons:

1. Harm to the park's natural environment

River Park is a valuable green space at the heart of Winchester. An all-weather perimeter path would further urbanise the park, alter its character, and reduce the natural setting that residents value. It could also have a detrimental impact on local wildlife and habitats.

2. Poor use of public funds.

The proposed expenditure of up to £153,000 on a new perimeter path is difficult to justify at a time when public services and community assets face significant financial pressures. We believe these funds could be better directed towards the higher-priority projects that deliver greater benefits to local residents.”

6. **To consider and determine the following Recommended Minutes: Cabinet held 17 June 2026 - Winchester Sport and Leisure Park improvements (CAB3561) (Pages 23 - 48)**

RECOMMENDED (TO COUNCIL):

That a capital budget of £740,000 be approved to deliver improvements at Winchester Sport & Leisure Park.

RESOLVED:

That subject to budget approval by full Council as set out above:

1. That the allocation of £740,000 of District-wide Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding and associated capital expenditure to deliver improvements at Winchester Sport & Leisure Park (WSLP) be approved, subject to Full Council approval of the associated capital budget.
2. That an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules to enable one of the direct award options set out in section 3.6 of this report be approved.
3. That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director, to approve minor amendments to the detailed design, specification and scope of the project during delivery, provided such changes remain within the approved budget and do not materially alter the strategic objectives or overall outcomes of the scheme approved by Cabinet.

7. **Notices of Motion**

a) Motion: Beat the Heat—Preparing for an Overheating Climate

Proposer: Cllr Danny Lee

Seconder: Cllr Kelsie Learney

Council notes that:

Climate change is making extreme heat more frequent and intense, increasing risks to health, housing, workplaces, infrastructure and essential services. It is estimated that the May and June heatwaves in England and Wales this year led to 2750 excess deaths.[6]

1. Those most at risk include older people, young children, people with disabilities or existing illnesses, rough sleepers and residents of poorly ventilated or overheating homes. Income also affects people's ability to adapt their homes or afford additional heating or cooling, making thermal resilience an important equality issue.

2. The Climate Change Committee's *A Well-Adapted UK* concludes that stronger adaptation is required across homes, public services and infrastructure as climate risks increase.[5]
3. From 30 Nov 2026, Phase 2 of Awaab's Law will extend social landlords' duties to significant excess heat and cold hazards.[8]
4. WCC already has relevant climate, housing, emergency-planning, asset-management and resilience arrangements and has responded to issues of overheating within its Council housing estate. Ongoing Council work provides an opportunity to strengthen **Beat the Heat** guidance and support to Council and communities.

Council believes that:

1. Protecting residents from extreme temperatures is a shared public-health, housing and climate-resilience responsibility. The Council's response should be evidence-led, proportionate and targeted at greatest risk, embedded within existing arrangements and avoiding unnecessary duplication or unfunded new workstreams.
3. Climate adaptation and emissions reduction must be pursued together. Protecting people from extreme heat should complement, rather than conflict with, decarbonisation.
3. Wider guidance sets out practical measures for keeping people and buildings cooler [1–3] which can be highlighted in the Council's forthcoming Housing Strategy update; however, the Housing Revenue Account is ring-fenced and financially constrained. Investment should therefore be targeted by statutory duty, assessed risk and household need, avoiding unfunded blanket programmes that could undermine essential housing services.

Council resolves to:

1. Ask Cabinet to report how extreme heat is being addressed in the Council's adaptation and resilience work, including implications for the transition to a new Unitary authority, using existing governance arrangements.
2. Invite Cabinet to ensure that overheating and resilience to extreme heat are considered through the preparation of the new Local Plan, informed by the evidence base, the new Gateway process, public consultation, national planning policy and the relationship with Building Regulations.
6. Invite Cabinet to set out the Council's developing approach to assessing and managing excess heat and cold in council housing, having regard to its statutory responsibilities under Awaab's Law, and resources available within the Housing Revenue Account.

4. Continue, through existing communications and partnerships, to promote appropriate practical advice before and during periods of extreme heat.
5. Request the Health and Environment Policy Committee to consider the establishment of a time-limited working group to identify practical measures the Council can undertake to reduce the impact of extreme heat on our residents in the short term and in the context of local government reorganisation.
1. Ask the Leader and cabinet to advocate for action on overheating locally and nationally including:
 - heat adaptation to be integrated into public-estate decarbonisation;
 - enforceable sector-specific maximum-temperature standards or action thresholds for schools and workplaces;
 - stronger building and retrofit standards addressing overheating.

References

1. UK Health Security Agency, *Beat the Heat: Staying Safe in Hot Weather*.
2. NHS, *Heatwave: How to Cope in Hot Weather*.
3. Energy Saving Trust, *How to Keep Your Home Cool in Hot Weather*.
4. Health and Safety Executive, *Temperature in the Workplace: What the Law Says and Heat Stress*.
5. Climate Change Committee, *A Well-Adapted UK: The Fourth Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk*, 20 May 2026.
6. Met Office, *More than 2,700 excess deaths estimated in England and Wales during May and June heatwaves*, 13 July 2026.
7. Office for National Statistics, *Climate-related mortality, England and Wales: 1988 to 2022*.
8. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, *Awaab's Law Phase 2: Guidance for social housing landlords*, 13 July 2026 (effective 30 November 2026).
9. Urban Heat Index - Heat mapping service – <https://www.linkedin.com/company/urban-heat-index/>

b) Motion - Natural Capital as Strategic Infrastructure

Proposer: Cllr Danny Lee

Seconder: Cllr Liam Bailey-Morgan

Environmental degradation is not a single, isolated risk. It is a systemic process that intensifies multiple, interconnected challenges — from flooding and water insecurity to poor health, food insecurity and economic disruption. To futureproof our economy and provide resilience against the increasing impacts of climate change, it is important natural capital is recognised as critical infrastructure and integrated more effectively into our economy.

Council notes that:

1. The emerging Hampshire and Solent Combined County Authority will shape economic growth, housing, transport, infrastructure investment and strategic planning through its Local Growth Plan and future Spatial Development Strategy.
1. The Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals' June 2026 paper, *Redefining Nature*, argues that natural capital should be recognised as critical infrastructure essential to society, the economy, public safety and resilience.
3. Rivers, aquifers, soils, wetlands, woodlands, coastlines, biodiversity and ecological networks underpin water security, food production, flood resilience, air quality, public health, climate adaptation and economic prosperity.
7. The paper estimates that UK ecosystem services are worth approximately £1.8 trillion and warns that environmental degradation could impose substantial future economic costs.
5. The Dasgupta Review concluded that economies, livelihoods and wellbeing depend upon nature and that economic prosperity is embedded within nature, not separate from it.
6. Devolution and local government reorganisation do not, by themselves, ensure that natural capital, climate resilience and nature recovery will be fully integrated into future growth and infrastructure decisions.

Council believes that:

1. Nature is not simply a constraint on growth but is essential infrastructure upon which sustainable growth depends.
2. Hampshire and the Solent's natural assets should be recognised, protected and managed as strategic infrastructure.
3. Failure to account for natural capital risks increasing future costs, weakening resilience and undermining sustainable development.
4. The emerging Combined County Authority has an opportunity to demonstrate national leadership by embedding natural capital and nature recovery into its plans and investment decisions from the outset.

Council resolves to:

1. Recognise the principle that **natural capital should be treated as strategic critical infrastructure** in policies, plans and investment decisions affecting Winchester district and the wider Hampshire and Solent area.
2. Ask the Leader and relevant Cabinet Members to advocate for natural capital, climate resilience and nature recovery to be embedded within:
 - a. the Local Growth Plan;
 - b. the future Spatial Development Strategy; and
 - c. strategic infrastructure, investment and monitoring frameworks.
3. Ask the emerging Combined County Authority to consider developing a Hampshire and Solent natural capital framework.
4. Seek alignment between the Local Growth Plan, Spatial Development Strategy, local plans, Local Nature Recovery Strategies, protected-landscape management plans and climate adaptation strategies.
5. Ensure that Winchester's Local Plan evidence base appropriately addresses natural capital, water resilience, nature recovery and climate adaptation.
6. Ask the Leader to write to the Chair of the emerging Combined County Authority Board requesting consideration of the following question:

How can natural capital be recognised and integrated as strategic infrastructure within the Local Growth Plan, Spatial Development Strategy and investment framework to support resilient and sustainable economic growth?

7. Request a proportionate update through existing reporting arrangements on the response and subsequent progress.

Refs:

1. [New guide urges businesses to consider the decline of the natural environment as a material financial risk](#)
2. [Natural capital must be recognised as critical national infrastructure to futureproof the economy - Water Magazine](#)
3. [Future-proofing our Economy | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust](#)
4. [Why Treating Nature As Critical Infrastructure Would Help Grow The Economy | Institution of Civil Engineers \(ICE\)](#)
5. [Nature as infrastructure: A three-point plan for growth and delivery](#)
6. [Nature as Critical Infrastructure: Implications for Resilience Planning from the UK's National Security Assessment | BCI](#)

8. **Confirmation of Appointments to Voluntary or Full Joint Committee Arrangements (CL181)** (Pages 49 - 52)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Council confirms the decision of Cabinet in respect of appointments to the Mid-Hampshire Unitary Authority voluntary and full joint committee, established under section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, as follows:

- i. Leader (Councillor Tod)
- ii. Deputy Leader (Councillor Cutler) - deputy

The appointments shall take effect immediately and shall continue for the duration of the committee, unless otherwise determined by Council.

2. That Council confirms the decision of Cabinet in respect of appointments to South-East Hampshire voluntary and full joint committee, as follows:

- i. Deputy Leader (Councillor Cutler)
- ii. Leader (Councillor Tod) - deputy

The appointments shall take effect immediately and shall continue for the duration of the committee, unless otherwise determined by Council.

3. That Council note that authority is delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and the Director (Legal) to agree the terms of reference and any associated procedures of the two voluntary or full joint committees.

9. **Changes to Committee Memberships**

To receive any resignations from committees and to make any necessary re-appointments.

10. **Information for Council - South Downs National Park Authority: Cllr Jerry Pett**

11. **Questions from Members of Council**

The total time for questions and the answer and supplementaries thereto shall not exceed 40 minutes.

LAURA TAYLOR
Chief Executive

All of the Council's publicly available agendas, reports and minutes are available to view and download from the Council's [Website](#) and are also open to inspection at the offices of the council. As part of our drive to minimise our use of paper we do not provide paper copies of the full agenda pack at meetings. We do however, provide a number of copies of the agenda front sheet at the meeting which contains the QR Code opposite. Scanning this code enables members of the public to easily access all of the meeting papers on their own electronic device. Please hold your device's camera or QR code App over the QR Code so that it's clearly visible within your screen and you will be redirected to the agenda pack.



12 August 2026

Agenda Contact: David Blakemore, Democratic Services Team Manager
Tel: 01962 848217 Email: dblakemore@winchester.gov.uk

Quorum = 15 members

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public may ask questions of the Leader, Cabinet Members and Committee Chairs at Ordinary Meetings of the Council. The total time allocated for questions by the public shall normally be limited to 20 minutes.

A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing to Democratic Services no later than 5 working days preceding the Council meeting. For example, if the Council meeting is being held at 7pm on a Wednesday then the question would need to be received by 10am on the preceding Wednesday. Please email to democracy@winchester.gov.uk.

FILMING AND BROADCAST NOTIFICATION

This meeting will be recorded and broadcast live on the Council's website. The meeting may also be recorded and broadcast by the press and members of the public – please see the Access to Information Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution for further information, which is available to view on the [Council's website](#).

DISABLED ACCESS:

Disabled access is normally available, but please phone Democratic Services on 01962 848 264 or email democracy@winchester.gov.uk to ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place.

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 1

COUNCIL

Wednesday, 20 May 2026

Attendance:

Councillors Present

Achwal S (Mayor)

Ablitt
Achwal V
Adams
Aron
Batho
Becker
Bennett
Brophy
Chamberlain
Clear
Cook
Cramoysan
Cutler
Godfrey
Gordon-Smith
Horrell
Laming

Latham
Learny
Murphy
Pett
Pinniger
Porter
Reach
Rutter
Scott
Small
Thompson
Tippett-Cooper
Tod
Wallace
Warwick
Westwood
White
Williams

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors Bailey-Morgan, Eve, Langford-Smith, Lee, Morris, Power, Wise, Clay and Fleuren

[Recording of Meeting](#)

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for the meeting were noted as above.

2. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest were made.

3. **TO ELECT FROM AMONGST THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL A PERSON TO BE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.**

Proposed by Councillor Clear and seconded by Councillor Learney and unanimously resolved that Councillor Jamie Scott be elected the 827th Mayor of the City of Winchester for the period commencing 20 May 2026.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Jamie Scott be elected the 827th Mayor of the City of Winchester for the period commencing 20 May 2026.

4. **TO MOVE A VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR.**

Councillor Scott (now Mayor) assumed the role of chairperson.

Proposed by Councillor Tippet-Cooper and seconded by Councillor Reach and unanimously resolved that the best thanks of the Council be accorded to Councillor Sudhakar Achwal for his service to the council as Mayor.

RESOLVED:

That the best thanks of the Council be accorded to Councillor Sudhakar Achwal for his service to the Council as Mayor.

5. **TO ELECT FROM AMONGST THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL A PERSON TO BE DEPUTY MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.**

Proposed by Councillor Horrill and seconded by Councillor Warwick and unanimously resolved that Councillor Godfrey be elected Deputy Mayor of the City of Winchester for the period commencing 20 May 2026.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Godfrey be elected Deputy Mayor of the City of Winchester for the period commencing 20 May 2026.

6. **TO CONFIRM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.**

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Tod be confirmed as Leader of the Council (Chairperson of Cabinet).

7. **THE LEADER TO CONFIRM THE DEPUTY LEADER (VICE CHAIRPERSON OF CABINET) AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF CABINET.**

The Leader, Councillor Tod, confirmed the Deputy Leader (Vice Chairperson of Cabinet) and other members of Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Cutler be appointed as Deputy Leader (Vice Chairperson of Cabinet) and Councillors Becker, Cramoysan, Learney, Porter, Reach and Thompson as remaining members of Cabinet.

8. **TO DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF SEATS TO BE ALLOCATED TO EACH GROUP AND TO CONFIRM THE MEMBERS AND DEPUTY MEMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING BODIES (OR OTHER BODIES AS COUNCIL MAY DETERMINE) FOR THE ENSUING YEAR:**

RESOLVED:

1. That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any minor consequential amendments to the Constitution to give effect to the decisions made.

2. That allocation of seats to political groups and memberships of the following bodies be confirmed be as follows:

Scrutiny Committee (9) – Councillors Pett, Power, Laming, Murphy, Batho, Clear, Gordon-Smith (Liberal Democrats 7) and Councillor Horrill (Conservatives 1) and Councillor Wallace (Independent & Green) plus deputies – Councillors Achwal V, Small (Liberal Democrats 2) and Councillors Warwick, Langford-Smith (Conservatives 2) and Councillors Cook and Lee (Independent & Green 2)

Audit and Governance Committee (9) – Councillors Morris, Chamberlain, Bennett, Brophy, Achwal S, Aron, Adams (Liberal Democrats 7) and Councillor Godfrey (Conservatives 1) and Councillor Bailey-Morgan (Independent & Green 1) plus deputies – Councillors Pinniger, Latham (Liberal Democrats 2) and Councillors Horrill, Warwick (Conservatives 2) and Councillors Lee, Wallace (Independent & Green 2)

Licensing and Regulation Committee (10) – Councillors Laming, Morris, Gordon-Smith, Pett, Achwal S, Brophy, Wise, Latham (Liberal Democrats 8) and Councillor Langford-Smith (Conservatives 1) and Wallace (Independent & Green 1) plus deputies – Councillors Tippet-Cooper, Clay, (Liberal Democrats 2) and Councillors Godfrey, Warwick (Conservatives 2) and Cook, Lee (Independent & Green 2)

Planning Committee (9) – Councillors Aron, Gordon-Smith, Laming, Rutter, Small, Williams, Ablitt (Liberal Democrats 7) and Councillor Langford Smith (Conservatives 1) and White (Independent & Green 1) plus deputies – Councillors Clear, Pett (Liberal Democrats 2) and Councillors Horrill, Godfrey (Conservatives 2) and Cook, Lee (Independent & Green 2)

Economy and Housing Policy Committee (9) – Councillors Batho, Morris, Murphy, Achwal S, Brophy, Ablitt, Fleuren (Liberal Democrats 7) and Councillor Horrill (Conservatives 1) and Cook (Independent & Green 1) plus deputies – Councillor Bennett, Wise (Liberal Democrats 2) and Councillors Langford-Smith, Warwick (Conservatives 2) and Councillors Bailey-Morgan and White (Independent & Green 2)

Health and Environment Policy Committee (9) – Councillors Brophy, Pett, Power, Westwood, Achwal V, Pinniger, Tippet-Cooper (Liberal Democrats 7) and Councillor Warwick (Conservatives 1) and Lee (Independent & Green 1) plus deputies – Councillors Eve, Fleuren (Liberal Democrats 2) and Councillors Horrill, Langford-Smith (Conservatives 2) and Councillors Cook and Bailey-Morgan (Independent & Green 2)

Housing Appeals Committee (3) - Councillors Batho, Power, Clear (Liberal Democrats 3)

Joint West of Waterlooville Planning Committee (5) – Councillors Laming, Williams, Rutter, Small (Liberal Democrats 4) and Councillor Wallace (Independent & Green 1) plus deputies – Councillors Clear and Pett (Liberal Democrats 2) and Councillors White and Lee (Independent & Green 2)

Further to the above, and pursuant to Section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Chief Executive served notice of each of the leaders of the political groups on the Council as to the allocation of seats indicated above.

9. **TO ELECT THE CHAIRPERSONS OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING BODIES (OR OTHER BODIES AS COUNCIL MAY DETERMINE) FOR THE ENSUING YEAR:-**

RESOLVED:

That chairpersons of the following bodies be confirmed as follows:

Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Wallace
Audit and Governance Committee – Councillor Morris
Licensing and Regulation Committee – Councillor Laming
Planning Committee – Councillor Rutter
Economy and Housing Policy Committee – Councillor Batho
Health and Environment Policy Committee – Councillor Pett
Housing Appeals Committee - Councillor Power
Joint West of Waterlooville Planning Committee – Councillor Rutter

10. **TO PASS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION IN RESPECT OF THE WINCHESTER TOWN FORUM.**

Proposed by The Leader, Councillor Tod and seconded by Councillor Cutler.

RESOLVED:

That the Winchester Town Forum be established for 2026/27 with membership consisting of all Members who represent the five Winchester Town Wards.

11. **TO PASS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION IN RESPECT OF THE HOUSING (APPEALS) COMMITTEE.**

Proposed by The Leader, Councillor Tod and seconded by Councillor Cutler.

RESOLVED:

That alternative arrangements other than proportional representation be agreed in respect of the Housing (Appeals) Committee.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and concluded at 7.45 pm

The Mayor

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Public Document Pack

COUNCIL

Tuesday, 2 June 2026

Attendance:

Councillors Present

Scott (Mayor)

Adams
Fleuren
Clay
Gordon-Smith
Achwal S
Achwal V
Aron
Bailey-Morgan
Batho
Becker
Bennett
Brophy
Chamberlain
Clear
Cook
Cramoysan
Cutler
Eve
Godfrey

Laming
Langford-Smith
Learney
Lee
Morris
Pett
Pinniger
Porter
Reach
Small
Tippett-Cooper
Tod
Wallace
Warwick
Westwood
White
Williams
Wise

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors Ablitt, Horrill, Latham, Murphy, Power, Rutter and Thompson

[Recording of meeting](#)

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1. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2026 AND THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 24 MARCH 2026**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 26 February 2026 and the Extraordinary meeting of the Council held on 24 March 2026 be agreed as a correct record.

2. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Councillors Batho, Clear, Small, Porter, Tod and Williams each declared disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of agenda items due to their role as Hampshire County Councillors. However, as there was no material conflict of interest, they remained in the room, spoke and voted under the dispensation granted on behalf of the Audit and Governance Committee to participate and vote in all matters which might have a County Council involvement.

Councillor Pett declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of agenda items due to his role as the Council's representative on the South Downs National Park Authority. However, as there was no material conflict of interest, he remained in the room, spoke and voted under the dispensation granted on behalf of the Audit and Governance Committee to participate and vote in all matters which might have a South Downs National Park Authority involvement.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, LEADER AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE.**

The Mayor firstly paid tribute to former councillor and Mayor of Winchester, Mike Read who had passed away in April.

Council stood in silent tribute to his memory.

The Mayor then referred to recent and forthcoming engagements. He then requested that members encourage representatives to get in touch so that he was able to visit as many communities, groups and events as possible.

The Leader provided an update regarding local government reorganisation (LGR) and reminded members that Option 1A had been decided by government, and most of the district would be reorganised into a new Mid Hampshire Unitary Council, alongside the majority of Test Valley, New Forest, and East Hampshire areas. The Newlands Parish area would form part of a South East Hampshire Council.

Guidance had been received from government, and a wider reorganisation process was underway, led by an implementation team headed by the Chief Executive of Hampshire County Council. This council's Chief Executive, Laura Taylor, had been appointed as Deputy Responsible Officer for Mid Hampshire, and congratulations were duly offered.

A joint committee would oversee the Mid Hampshire implementation work, and representation would consist of one place for this council, one place each for the other three districts, and four places for the county council.

The council had also established a Local Government Reorganisation Programme Board to monitor progress. This board included representatives from Cabinet, the Audit and Governance Committee, and both opposition groups. All Member briefings would continue as required.

The Leader then advised that the government had requested further work regarding future warding arrangements for the new unitary authority, and options

were being assessed by Monitoring Officers in line with guidance from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. There was also a need to appoint a Returning Officer for the Mid Hampshire elections and it was explained that the Structural Change Order was to cancel the May 2027 elections and replace them with all-out elections for the new unitary authorities. In addition, it was reported that consultation had taken place and the council was to confirm to the government that parish elections should be aligned with future unitary elections.

The Chief Executive then announced apologies for the meeting.

4. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Seven written questions had been received from members of the public, who attended the meeting to present. With the leave of the Mayor, it was agreed that each of questioners would read out their question in turn, and the cabinet member would then provide a detailed response that would deal with all the matters raised.

One supplementary question was also asked.

The questions and the response are set out on the [council's website](#).

5. **SECOND HOME COUNCIL TAX PREMIUM (CL180)**

The Monitoring Officer introduced the report and then Councillor Cutler (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation) moved that the Recommendations in the report be approved and adopted (seconded by Councillor Tod, Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration).

Council proceeded to ask questions regarding the matters in the report. There was no debate.

Following the seconder speaking (Councillor Tod - having reserved his right), Councillor Cutler was then invited to sum up before the Council then voted on the Recommendations before it, which was a recorded vote, as requested by the Monitoring Officer.

The following Members voted in favour of the Recommendations in Report CL180:

1. Councillor Sudhakar Achwal
2. Councillor Vivian Achwal
3. Councillor Andrew Adams
4. Councillor Rachel Aron
5. Councillor Liam Bailey-Morgan
6. Councillor James Batho
7. Councillor Kathleen Becker
8. Councillor Michael Bennett
9. Councillor Adrian Brophy
10. Councillor Chris Chamberlain

11. Councillor Martin Clay
12. Councillor Angela Clear
13. Councillor Susan Cook
14. Councillor Steve Cramoysan
15. Councillor Neil Cutler
16. Councillor Nathan Eve
17. Councillor Simone Fleuren
18. Councillor Russell Gordon-Smith
19. Councillor Brian Laming
20. Councillor Paula Langford-Smith
21. Councillor Kelsie Learney
22. Councillor Danny Lee
23. Councillor Jonny Morris
24. Councillor Jerry Pett
25. Councillor Clare Pinniger
26. Councillor Jackie Porter
27. Councillor Mark Reach
28. Councillor Jamie Scott
29. Councillor Anne Small
30. Councillor John Tippet-Cooper
31. Councillor Martin Tod
32. Councillor Malcolm Wallace
33. Councillor Jan Warwick
34. Councillor Chris Westwood
35. Councillor Suzanne White
36. Councillor Jonathan Williams
37. Councillor Charlie Wise

The following Members voted against the Recommendations in Report CL180:

1. None

Not Voted:

1. Councillor Stephen Godfrey

RESOLVED:

1. That the Monitoring Officer's report under S5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 be noted.
2. That the analysis of the Statutory Guidance at Appendix 1 of this report be approved, and that the Council's decision of 27 February 2025 to adopt a policy of charging a 100% second home council tax premium with relevant exemptions be confirmed.

3. That the adoption of a 100% second home council tax premium for the next year 2027/2028 and future years be approved, unless and until an alternative determination is made.

6. **WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL CONSTITUTION UPDATES 2026 & EXTENSION TO APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS (CL178)**

The Monitoring Officer introduced the report and then responded to questions.

RESOLVED:

1. That the updates and amendments made by the Monitoring Officer be noted.
2. That the Monitoring Officer's approval of an extension to the term of the appointment of the council's three Independent Persons for two further years be noted.

7. **AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26 (CL179)**

Councillor Morris (Chairperson of the Audit and Governance Committee) moved the Recommendation in the report be approved and adopted (seconded by Councillor Chamberlain).

There were no questions or debate before Councillor Morris was invited to sum up before Council voted on the Recommendations before it.

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Audit and Governance Committee Report for 2025/26 be noted.

8. **TO CONSIDER AND DETERMINE THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDED MINUTES OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD 26 MAY 2026 - ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2025/26 (SC102) - DRAFT RECOMMENDED MINUTE TO FOLLOW.**

Councillor Wallace (Chair of the Scrutiny Committee) moved that the recommended minute of the Scrutiny Committee be approved and adopted (seconded by Councillor Batho).

There were no questions or debate, before Councillor Wallace was invited to sum up before the Council voted on the Recommendations before it.

RESOLVED:

That the Recommended Minute of the Scrutiny Committee held 26 May 2026 be approved and adopted:

That the Annual Scrutiny Report for 2025/26 be noted.

9. **CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

There were no changes to committee memberships for Council to note.

10. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

7 written questions had been received which were heard at the meeting along with associated supplementary questions. The questions received and their response were subsequently set out on the [council's website](#).

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and concluded at 8.05 pm

The Mayor

CABINET

17 June 2026

Draft Minute Extract

WINCHESTER SPORT AND LEISURE PARK IMPROVEMENTS (CAB3561)

Councillor Tod introduced the report on behalf of Councillor Becker emphasising the importance of the WSLP in offering access to different sports and fitness facilities to a wider sector of the community, including NHS referrals. He highlighted that the council owned the WSLP building and it was essential for its offer to be updated to ensure it remained financially viable.

At the invitation of the Leader, Councillors Wallace, Lee and Horrill addressed Cabinet as summarised below.

Councillor Wallace

As chair of Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Wallace expressed concerns that the accelerated timetable bypassed proper scrutiny and the spirit of the council's constitution provisions relating to decision-making. He questioned the justification for allocating £740,000 of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding to a successful leisure facility, noting the lack of a clear link to mitigating development impacts. Furthermore, he highlighted the inequity of using funds generated district-wide for city-based projects, particularly when rural areas contribute significantly to the total CIL pot. Consequently, he stated he could not support the recommendation and urged Cabinet to refocus CIL expenditure on its primary purpose of supporting infrastructure throughout the district.

Councillor Lee

Councillor Lee also questioned whether the allocation of £740,000 in CIL funding for improvements at an already successful urban leisure centre represented the fairest or most appropriate use of scarce resources. He expressed concern regarding the pattern of investment across the district and queried whether the proposal addressed a genuine district-wide priority or served to further enhance a niche Winchester town facility. He highlighted the council's own evidence of substantial unmet needs elsewhere in the district and challenged the justification for directing limited CIL funding in the city centre at the expense of other competitive requirements.

Councillor Horrill

Councillor Horrill welcomed the continued success of the WSLP as a district asset but sought clarification on what specific actions were taken to engage residents and users regarding the proposed improvements. She also raised concerns regarding why the project appeared outside of the standard CIL process and decision-making and believed there was a lack of evidence to support the report's claims of long-term resilience. Finally, she emphasised

that while the facility must evolve to meet customer needs, the current proposal lacked transparency.

Councillor Tod thanked councillors for their contributions and also referenced the comments made by Mr Davies during public participation earlier in the meeting.

Councillor Tod and the Strategic Director responded to the comments made including on the CIL process and the high demand for additional group exercise class provision at WSLP. The Strategic Director advised that early engagement had been undertaken with users of WSLP and that further consultation would take place.

The Director: Legal clarified that because the proposed decision was subject to full council approval, it was not an executive decision (i.e. one to be taken by Cabinet) and therefore not classed as a key decision.

The Chief Executive clarified that there was no constitutional requirement for the report to be considered by a scrutiny committee prior to submission to Cabinet. She confirmed that it was for full council to determine whether to approve the capital budget of £740,000.

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons set out in the report and outlined above.

RECOMMENDED (TO COUNCIL):

That a capital budget of £740,000 be approved to deliver improvements at Winchester Sport & Leisure Park.

RESOLVED:

That subject to budget approval by full Council as set out above:

1. That the allocation of £740,000 of District-wide Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding and associated capital expenditure to deliver improvements at Winchester Sport & Leisure Park (WSLP) be approved, subject to Full Council approval of the associated capital budget.
2. That an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules to enable one of the direct award options set out in section 3.6 of this report be approved.
3. That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director, to approve minor amendments to the detailed design, specification and scope of the project during delivery, provided such changes remain within the approved budget and do not materially alter the strategic objectives or overall outcomes of the scheme approved by Cabinet.

REPORT TITLE: WINCHESTER SPORT AND LEISURE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

17 JUNE 2026

REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Kathleen Becker, Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities

Contact Officer: Steve Lincoln Tel No: 01962 848 110 Email
slincoln@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

To seek Cabinet approval for an exciting opportunity at Winchester Sport & Leisure Park (WSLP), enhancing and future-proofing the Council's flagship leisure asset to ensure it continues to evolve with changing customer expectations and remains at the forefront of health and wellbeing provision in the district.

Since opening in May 2021, WSLP has become a significant success story for Winchester, welcoming approximately 1.4 million visits annually and establishing itself as a central hub supporting healthier communities, active lifestyles and thriving places. As the centre enters its sixth year of operation, there is now an opportunity to build on this success and respond proactively to rapidly changing trends within the leisure and wellbeing market.

As owner of the asset, Winchester City Council has an important role in ensuring the facility continues to remain commercially competitive, financially sustainable and attractive to residents, visitors and future operators. Continuous investment in the Council's leisure infrastructure is essential to maintaining a modern, high-quality offer that responds to changing participation trends and customer expectations within the increasingly competitive leisure sector.

This report therefore seeks approval for a £740,000 investment through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) programme to deliver a strategic enhancement to WSLP, supporting the continued evolution of the centre and ensuring it remains a modern, commercially resilient and attractive destination for residents and visitors. The proposed investment would transform underutilised space within the centre into a new wellbeing-focused offer including Reformer Pilates, recovery facilities and dedicated wellness warm-up and warm-down spaces, broadening the appeal of WSLP and

responding to increasing demand for more holistic approaches to health and wellbeing.

The business case developed by Everyone Active demonstrates that this proposal represents a sound and sustainable investment, generating increased usage, improving the overall customer offer and supporting the long-term financial resilience of the facility. The proposal represents an opportunity not only to enhance the customer experience but also to strengthen the long-term sustainability and attractiveness of the asset, protecting its value and ensuring WSLP remains competitive for both existing and future operators beyond the current contract period ending in 2036.

This investment reflects a forward-looking approach to asset management and supports the Council Plan ambitions by investing in healthier communities, delivering sustainable services and maximising the value and impact of one of the Council's most significant leisure assets.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Subject to budget approval by full Council as set out below, Cabinet is asked to:

1. **Approve** the allocation of £740,000 of District-wide Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding and associated capital expenditure to deliver improvements at Winchester Sport & Leisure Park (WSLP), subject to Full Council approval of the associated capital budget.
2. **Approve** an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules to enable one of the direct award options set out in section 3.6 of this report.
3. **Delegate** authority to the Strategic Director, to approve minor amendments to the detailed design, specification and scope of the project during delivery, provided such changes remain within the approved budget and do not materially alter the strategic objectives or overall outcomes of the scheme approved by Cabinet.

Cabinet is requested to recommend to Full Council:

4. **Approval** of a capital budget of £740,000 to deliver improvements at Winchester Sport & Leisure Park.

IMPLICATIONS:1 COUNCIL PLAN OUTCOME

1.1 The ability to investment directly supports our vision, as stated in the Council Plan, that we will make a real difference to the lives of our residents, the strength of our business and the quality of our environment. The infrastructure project recommended for funding contributes to the Council Plan priorities in the following ways.

1.2 Healthy Communities

1.3 The provision of a varied and accessible range of health and fitness services via our contract with Everyone Active helps to maximise participation in physical activity for all ages and abilities. This proposal would broaden the range of opportunities available at WSLP, directly supporting the council's ambition to enable residents to live active and healthy lives, while also strengthening the commercial performance of the facility.

2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONSCapital

2.1 The cost of the works as estimated by an external leisure supplier to be £630,000. Given the uncertainty of construction costs, a 17.5% contingency has been added to the project. All ongoing revenue costs associated with the with the maintenance, inspection, insurance and repair etc of the new space and installed equipment will be met by Everyone Active.

2.2 It is proposed that WCC District CIL be used fund the works. Therefore, approval for £740,000 CIL allocation, establishment of budget and capital expenditure is requested.

2.3 Since the report to Cabinet in March 2026 when the latest round of CIL allocations was considered, additional CIL funds have been collected and the total fund available now stands at over £2.2m.

CIL Funds	Health, Community active travel and transport	District	Total
Remaining to be allocated	£1,036,526	£131,740	£1,168,266
Collected during 25/26	£405,039	£607,558	£1,012,597
Collected to date in 26/27	£16,654	£24,981	£41,635
Current sum for allocation in 2026/27	£1,458,219	£764,279	£2,222,498

- 2.4 Of this, c.£740k is ring-fenced in the strategic fund for use on council projects. Therefore, there are sufficient funds available for the proposed investment.

Revenue

- 2.5 There will not be an immediate direct impact on council income. However, the surplus share arrangement within the contract presents the possibility for the council to see increased income in future years as a result of the increased revenue generated by this new facility.
- 2.6 The greater financial value resulting from the proposal will be on the long-term profitability of WSLP, maintaining the financial performance of the facility to secure maximum value of the subsequent contract when the existing one comes to end in nine and a half years. This is vital, as the council will rely on sustained income levels from the subsequent contract to continue to service the borrowing.
- 2.7 Everyone Active has shared indicative financial modelling with the council which demonstrates that the proposal represents a prudent and sustainable investment into the council's leisure asset, supporting increased usage, improved customer offer and long-term commercial resilience.

3 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Planning Act 2008 and the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 as amended (including by the Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No.2) Regulations 2019) allow charging authorities to collect funding from qualifying developments in their area, which must be used to support or mitigate the effects of development. It can be used flexibly to fund any infrastructure as defined within the legislation.
- 3.2 To ensure transparency and accountability, a mechanism to identify and prioritise schemes on which spending is required to support development in the district was agreed by Cabinet in June 2016 (CAB2807). This spending protocol was updated in September 2018 (CAB3071) and again in March 2021 (CAB3292) to reflect the updated CIL Regulations and Government guidance. A further review of CIL was conducted in 2023, which resulted in a recommendation to ring-fence the district CIL into three distinct funds reflecting the priorities of the Council Plan.
- 3.3 Approved council-led schemes will be procured in accordance with the council's Contract Procedure Rules and the Procurement Act 2023 (PA23) with guidance from Procurement, Finance and Legal as required.
- 3.4 A separate report to this meeting of Cabinet is seeking approval for the council to progress an Agency Variation to the council's leisure management contract with Everyone Active. Should that be approved, it would establish a different relationship with Everyone Active that would allow them to procure

and manage these works on behalf of the council, as our agent. This is the simplest route to delivering the scheme and would make best use of the opportunity presented by the new agency model.

- 3.5 In any event, an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules will be required, as the works contract is outside the scope of the Everyone Active contract. The below is the hierarchy of preferred procurement routes, all of which would require an exception to the CPRs to be approved by Cabinet. The exception is required as there is not sufficient time in the programme to carry out a competitive tender exercise.
- a) Option 1 (preferred) – Everyone Active procure the works as our agent. Any agent acting on behalf of the council is bound by its CPRs, as such Everyone Active would be required to either conduct a formal competitive Open tender or direct award to their supply chain with an exception.
 - b) Option 2 – Everyone Active be directly awarded the works contract and utilise their supply chain (liable to incur additional project management / professional service costs).
 - c) Option 3 – WCC direct award to a contractor within Everyone Active's supply chain (liable to incur additional project management / professional service costs).
- 3.6 Owing to the value of the works in question, an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules is required and approval needed from Cabinet, in accordance with CPR 52.1 d).

4 WORKFORCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are minimal workforce implications associated with the preferred option 1 for procurement (see 3.6 above).
- 4.2 In the event that options 2 or 3 for procurement are required, we are liable to incur additional project management / professional service costs and legal, finance and procurement team resources will be needed.

5 PROPERTY AND ASSET IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 WSLP is a council asset and is leased to Everyone Active (or licence to occupy under the Agency model) to manage and operate the centre and associated assets on behalf of the authority, based on the facilities and layouts that existed at the point the contract was awarded. The contract does not place responsibility on Everyone Active to independently redesign, reconfigure or significantly develop council-owned assets.
- 5.2 Decisions around capital investment, changes to building layouts, expansion of facilities or wider service transformation remain matters for the council, as asset owner and strategic authority. The strongest schemes tend to be those

developed collaboratively between the council and operator (as in this case), with the council leading on strategic investment decisions and the operator supporting the business case, operational design and delivery implications.

- 5.3 Investment in new space configuration and the installation of equipment falls within the council responsibilities. The new assets will remain the property of the council and at the end of the contract, or their end of life or at such time as they are no longer required they will be disposed of as appropriate. Everyone Active will maintain, inspect, repair and replace any equipment at their cost over the life of the assets.
- 5.4 The project costs include the disposal of the current changing room fixtures and fittings which would not be retained, although some parts will be kept onsite as spares (i.e. shower parts).
- 5.5 None of the work associated with this project will require planning permission, as the works are internal only and do not involve the movement of supporting walls or joists.

6 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 6.1 The need to review and make changes to the type of facilities at WSLP was raised by EA during 2025 and has been discussed at the Advisory Board in February 2026. At the time this covered the planned works to replace the climbing wall with a soft play area. This triggered further discussion on other potential areas there were for improvement and change and which present opportunities for the centre to remain current and competitive. The options presented here have been discussed in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities and the preferred option identified.
- 6.2 In April a more detailed proposal and business case were considered through council's normal internal project management process and was given support to progress.
- 6.3 The informal CIL Panel considered the proposal on 22 May 2026 and endorsed the proposal for CIL funding in line with the recommendation in this report. As part of the CIL application process, ward members for St Michael ward were asked to confirm their support for the scheme and two have done so to date, with one further response awaited.
- 6.4 Earlier in June, Everyone Active began to survey current users of WSLP to understand the extent of any impact on them from the proposed changes. In particular, this will involve users of the gym and group exercise studios, who are those most likely to be affected by the loss of changing space on the first floor. This engagement with users will continue as the detailed design process proceeds, through a co-design approach, to ensure that the final design and resultant changes meet the needs of the wider user base at the centre.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The procurement contract for reconfiguration works, and the specification for new equipment, will include environmental consideration on matters such as materials, energy use and supply chain.
- 7.2 Some material will be reused from the fixtures being removed. Disposal will be by a regulated waste management company.
- 7.3 Removal of showers and toilets will lead to a reduction in water use, although this will be minimal due to the current low use.

8 PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

- 8.1 The council's duty under the Human Rights Act 1988 and the Equalities Act 2010 is considered and an equality impact assessment has been completed. There is no identified adverse impact through the allocation of CIL funding to anyone with protected characteristics under the Equalities Act 2010, or with regards to human rights (see appendix 1).
- 8.2 Many projects allocated CIL funding seek to improve accessibility to facilities and improved infrastructure for all. These will have a positive impact upon the council's duties under the Human Rights Act 1088 and the Equalities Act 2010. Future funding priorities will continue to provide improved facilities at both a local and district wide level to enable more inclusive communities and better health and well-being for all.

9 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 None required.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Mitigation	Opportunities
<u>Financial Exposure</u> Scheme delivery cost exceeds budget.	Costs estimates provided by a contractor known to Everyone Active. 17.5% contingency has been included. Allocation of a set CIL budget and accounting for this retrospectively after proof of expenditure minimises occurrence of any cost overruns.	The proposed scheme is forecast to generate additional revenue so is expected to improve the financial viability of WSLP.
<u>Exposure to challenge</u>		

Proposals are challenged through the planning system.	Informal discussion indicates that no planning application is required.	
<u>Innovation</u> The innovation in new space and equipment is short lived and does not create the returns envisages.	The current changing rooms are inflexible and offer no commercial space. The new space is flexible and can be adapted to other health and fitness activities as may be demanded in the future.	
<u>Reputation</u> The centre users do not support the changes and criticises the council for its investment and disruption to centre use.	Users have been engaged and their views sought on the changes. If approved EA will provide information about the changes through regular communications with users across it various channels, including notices within the centre.	
<u>Achievement of outcome</u> The new space does not achieve the project's objectives of: • Increased offer and programme to residents • Increased footfall at WSLP • Increased income • Enhancing skilled workforce CPD for staff • Increased commercial attractiveness for the life of this contract and for future operators	EA has significant experience across its wide portfolio of leisure facilities, and the proposal is informed by this experience.	
<u>Property</u>		

Future cost implication of equipment maintenance, repair and replacement.	Maintenance and lifecycle replacement within the contract will sit with the operator in line with the existing maintenance responsibility matrix in the contract.	The predicted increase in revenue should enable the operator and/or council to increase future investment in the onsite facilities.
Community Support		
<u>Timescales</u> The project is not delayed or is not delivered to time.	Seeking approval for the CIL allocation, budget and for capital expenditure enables the project team to plan for the procurement, commissioning installation and of the works. The ensure there is sufficient time to plan the necessary resources to deliver the project and time them for the more convenient period in the centre's sport / health programme.	
<u>Project capacity</u> Lack of capacity to deliver project on time.	The recommended procurement approach would place minimal resource requirement on the council, as the works would be commissioned and managed by EA.	
<u>Local Government Reorganisation</u> Government approval is required, following the making of the Structural Change Order.	Guidance indicates that the threshold for entering capital contracts is likely to be those in excess of £1,000,000.	The proposed Agency Variation to the council's leisure management contract creates an opportunity for Everyone Active to procure the contract.

11 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

Background

- 11.1 WSLP opened in May 2021 as the council's flagship leisure facility and is now entering its sixth year of operation, attracting approximately 1.4 million visits annually. As the contract matures, the council's focus is on ensuring the centre continues to deliver against our Council Plan priorities, supporting healthy communities, contributing to thriving places, and operating on a financially sustainable footing.
- 11.2 The site is operated under the council's long-term leisure contract with Everyone Active, which runs until April 2036. Over the time that the centre has been open time health and fitness trends have changed and customer expectations for the sort of facilities they are seeking has shifted. Fitness has broadened into more holistic wellbeing (mental health, recovery, sleep, nutrition), not just physical activity. Therefore, it is essential that the council continues to invest strategically in the asset to maintain its quality, relevance, and commercial attractiveness over the long term.
- 11.3 Based on its experience across a national portfolio, Everyone Active has identified an opportunity to reconfigure underutilised space and create a new commercial offer that aligns with a growing demand in the market and would keep WSLP at the forefront of local leisure provision.
- 11.4 The space in question currently contains the first-floor changing rooms, comprising:
 - a) Female changing: 7 toilets; 11 showers; 101 lockers; open changing space and 5 cubicle changing spaces.
 - b) Male changing: 4 toilets, 4 urinals; 11 showers; 122 lockers; open changing space and 5 cubicle changing spaces.
- 11.5 The current floor plan of the area in question is shown at appendix 2.
- 11.6 Anecdotally, the sports hall and first floor changing spaces are rarely crowded, with limited but steady numbers using the space, primarily for the toilet and locker facilities. Everyone Active has begun to survey current users of WSLP to understand in more detail the extent of any impact on them from the proposed changes.

The proposal

- 11.7 It is proposed to reconfigure the changing room space on the first floor of WSLP into a dedicated Pilates studio, with associated recovery rooms and warm-up, warm-down space. This space currently generates no income, and

the proposal represents an opportunity to introduce a new, commercially viable offer, aligned to strong and growing demand in Winchester for health and wellbeing activities. This would comprise:

- a) A new 20-bed Reformer Pilates studio.
- b) 3 new individual recovery rooms with cryo and hydro massage beds.
- c) A wellness space for warm-up, warm-down, stretching and mobility.
- d) Male and female toilets (4 of each) retained along with 48 lockers.

- 11.8 The proposed new space would create a calm, modern and premium wellbeing environment within WSLP, complementing the centre's existing fitness and sports offer. The reformer Pilates studio would provide instructor-led sessions focused on strength, posture and flexibility and low-impact conditioning, while recovery rooms would offer a bookable treatments and self-guided recovery experiences designed to support muscle recovery, relaxation and overall wellbeing. The warm-up, warm-down space would provide a dedicated area for stretching, mobility work and preparation before or after exercise. Together, these elements would reflect changing customer expectations in the leisure market, where users increasingly look for facilities that support recovery, holistic wellbeing and a broader lifestyle offer, rather than traditional gym provision alone. At present, WSLP has a strong fitness, swimming and sports offer, but limited provision specifically focused on wellbeing and recovery, outside of the hydrotherapy pool. The proposed reconfiguration would therefore address a clear gap in the current offer, helping the centre remain competitive, broaden its appeal and attract both existing users and new customer groups.
- 11.9 The proposed floor plan of the area in question after the changes is shown at appendix 3 and some indicative images are shown at appendix 4 of what a Reformer Pilates studio, recovery rooms and associated equipment might look like.
- 11.10 Customers who currently use the showers would be directed to use the sports hall changing rooms on the ground floor, which host six showers in both the male and female changing rooms, 65 lockers and four toilets in each space – all of a similar quality to the facilities that would be lost. Customers could also choose to use the ground floor changing village, which hosts 75 cubicles, 629 lockers, and a further 26 showers.

Conclusion

- 11.11 The proposed scheme would enhance the overall offer at WSLP, protecting the long-term value of the asset and ensuring the site remains competitive in a competitive market and attractive to future operators beyond 2036. In doing so, it supports both our place-based ambitions and our responsibility to manage assets in a financially responsible and forward-looking way.

12 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 12.1 The council could choose not to invest in the site's infrastructure at this time, choosing to keep the changing room in-situ and to keep the user experience and offer exactly as it is now. However, the 'no change' option would mean a missed opportunity to increase footfall onsite and income generation that would make the site more profitable, encouraging the operator to sustain their investment in the site as the contract progresses. Lack of ongoing investment could also impact the commercial attractiveness of the site, resulting in a less beneficial contract from 2036.
- 12.2 Everyone Active also presented an enhanced scheme that would also relocate a spin studio and increase gym provision. This enhanced scheme had an estimated cost in excess of £1.3m, which could not currently be met from the available CIL fund. It was felt that this did not offer such good value for money, so this option was discounted.
- 12.3 We considered other areas within WSLP that could be adapted, but there is no obvious alternative location for a Reformer Pilates studio. The group exercise provision on the same floor comprises three studios and is used at 74% occupancy, which is considered within the industry to be high performing. Group exercise sees a steady monthly footfall of c.10,000 visits and is a unique selling point against commercial competitors, who offer gym-only experiences.
- 12.4 The works could be procured and managed by the council instead of by Everyone Active. However, achieving this via a competitive tender or through a framework would delay the council's decision on the scheme until a contractor was identified and would present significant time challenges in context of LGR. The option of Everyone Active procuring and managing the works is therefore the preferred option.
- 12.5 We could seek full or partial funding from Everyone Active in recognition of the benefit to the operator that the new facility would bring. However, there is no contractual basis for this and Everyone Active is already committed to funding another enhancement to WSLP this year – the £200,000 conversion of the climbing area to a new soft play facility.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Previous Committee Reports:

None

Other Background Documents:

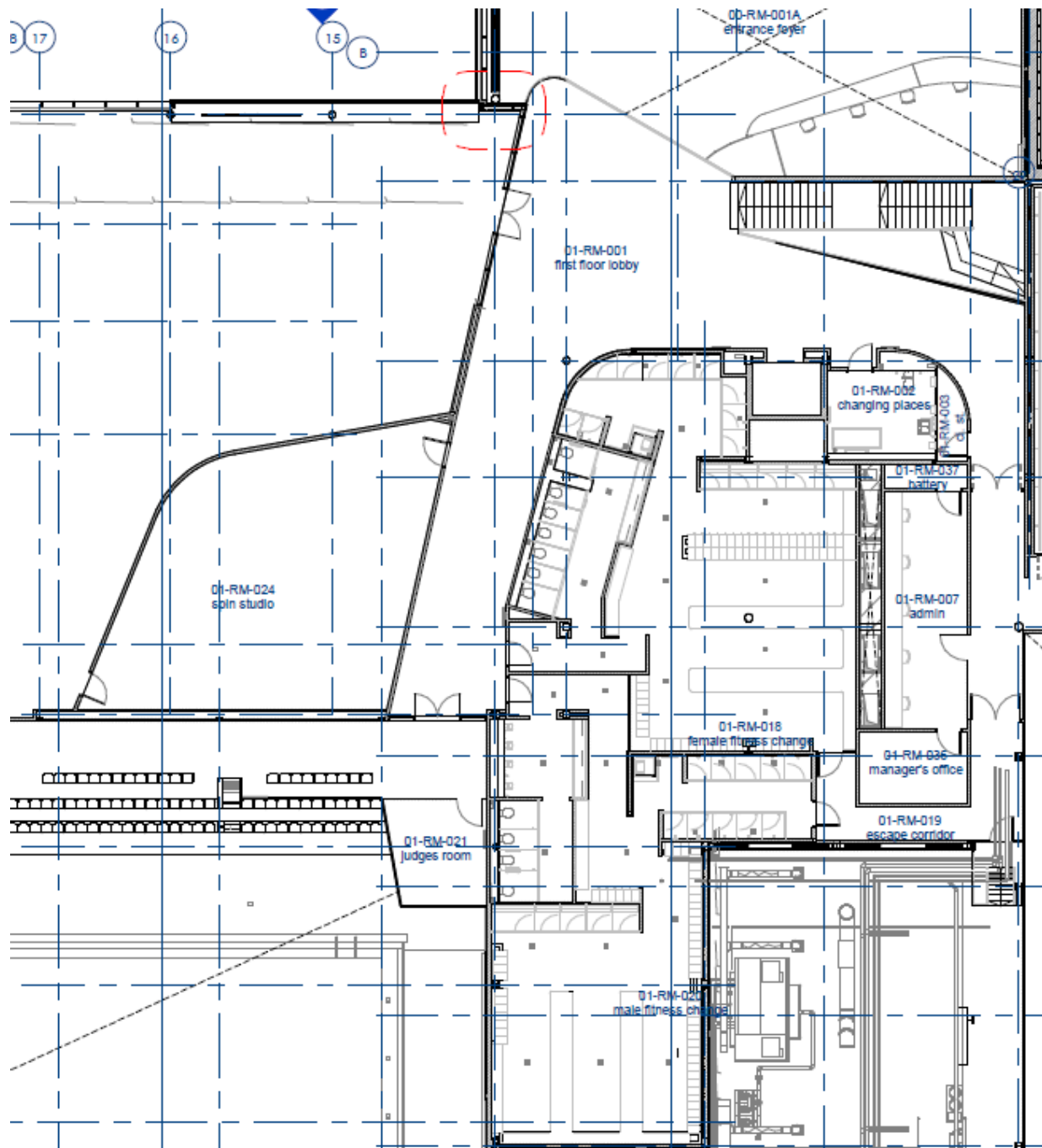
None

APPENDICES:

1. Equality impact assessment
2. Current floor plan – WSLP first floor
3. Proposed floor plan – WSLP first floor
4. Indicative images

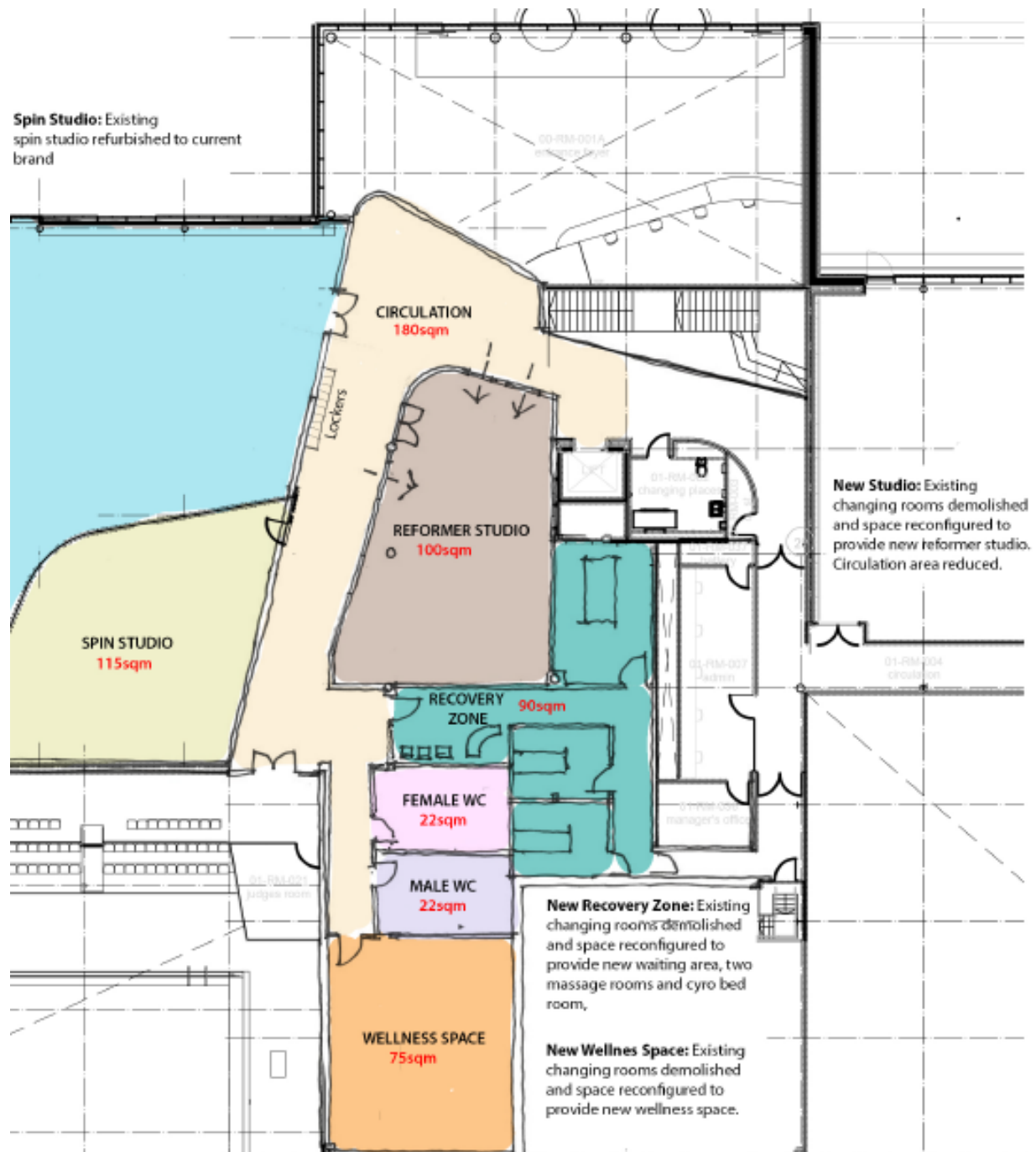
Appendix 2

Current floor plan – WSLP first floor



Appendix 3

Proposed floor plan – WSLP first floor



Appendix 4

Indicative images

Reformer Pilates studio



Cryotherapy bed



Hydromassage bed



Winchester City Council
Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)



Section 1 - Data Checklist

When undertaking an EqIA for your policy or project, it is important that you take into consideration everything which is associated with the policy or project that is being assessed.

The checklist below is to help you sense check your policy or project before you move to Section 2.

		Yes/No	Please provide details
1	Have there been any complaints data related to the policy or project you are looking to implement?	No	There have been no complaints to date, but the detailed proposal has not been publicised at the point of this document being prepared. Feedback on the proposal will be reviewed before final decision is taken to proceed.
2	Have all officers who will be responsible for implementing the policy or project been consulted, and given the opportunity to raise concerns about the way the policy or function has or will be implemented?	Yes	Officers from the community and wellbeing team have discussed the proposal with colleagues from the operator, Everyone Active (EA).
3	Have previous consultations highlighted any concerns about the policy or project from an equality impact perspective?	No	N/A
4	Do you have any concerns regarding the implementation of this policy or project?	No	EA has experience of delivering facility improvements and has an established procurement process through which it will be managed. They work with a number of procurement partners and have effective working relationships.

		Yes/No	Please provide details
	<i>(i.e. Have you completed a self-assessment and action plan for the implementation of your policy or project?)</i>		
5	Does any accessible data regarding the area which your work will address identify any areas of concern or potential problems which may impact on your policy or project?	No	Winchester Sport and Leisure Park (WSLP) is an accessible building that already includes features to actively include people from various protected groups. Nothing about this proposal negatively impacts that position. The proposal does result in the loss of changing rooms and associated facilities, but there are all provide for at the same standard elsewhere in the building and are as equally accessible.
6	Do you have any past experience delivering similar policies or projects which may inform the implementation of your scheme from an equality impact point of view?	Yes	EA has experience of such projects and will be delivering the project.
7	Are there any other issues that you think will be relevant?	No	N/A

Section 2 - Your EqIA form

Directorate: Place	Your Service Area: Economy & Community	Team: Community & Wellbeing	Officer responsible for this assessment: Steve Lincoln	Date of assessment: 21 May 2026
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	Question	Please provide details
1	What is the name of the policy or project that is being assessed?	WSLP Pilates and wellness suite.
2	Is this a new or existing policy?	New facility.
3	Briefly describe the aim and purpose of this work.	Conversion of underutilised space within the centre into a new premium wellbeing offer including Reformer Pilates, recovery facilities and dedicated wellness spaces.
4	What are the associated objectives of this work?	• Improved offer at WSLP. • Increased reach into cohort not currently using the centre. • Keeping WSLP at the forefront of local provision.
5	Who is intended to benefit from this work and in what way?	• Adults aged 30+, particularly those seeking low-impact exercise without the barriers associated with high-intensity gym activity. • Older residents, to remain active and independent for longer. • People managing injury, long-term conditions or returning to activity. • Women, who remain a core demographic for Pilates participation. • Existing members and sports participants at WSLP, including gym users, swimmers and team-sport participants, who will benefit from complementary recovery and conditioning provision.

		Residents of higher-density and town-centre developments, who are more reliant on publicly accessible indoor facilities due to limited private space for exercise.		
6	What are the outcomes sought from this work?	- Increased footfall - Increased revenue and profitability of the centre		
7	What factors/forces could contribute or detract from the outcomes?	- External competition for the market - Pricing levels - Quality of the installation and ongoing maintenance - Reputation of WSLP generally		
8	Who are the key individuals and organisations responsible for the implementation of this work?	- Steve Lincoln, Service Lead, WCC - Alison Lewis, Area Contract Manager, EA - Laura Jones, Contract Manager, WCC		
9	Who implements the policy or project and who or what is responsible for it?	- Alison Lewis will be the local contact at EA who will liaise with their property specialists that will oversee the procurement and delivery of the works. - Graeme Todd will be the WCC point of contact for all property and construction matters. - Laura Jones will be the WCC contact for wider contractual matters with EA. - Steve Lincoln will provide strategic project oversight		
10a	Could the policy or project have the potential to affect individuals or communities on the basis of race differently in a negative way?	Y	N	If instructors and marketing materials are not representative, it can signal that the space is “ <i>not for everyone.</i> ” In addition, a lack of diversity among staff can reduce cultural understanding or inclusivity.

10b	What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	3.4% of residents in the district have a main language that is not English (Census 2021).		
11a	Could the policy or project have the potential to affect individuals or communities on the basis of sex differently in a negative way?	Y	N	Pilates can be viewed as an activity primarily for women and be promoted or marketed as such.
11b	What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	20% of women report doing yoga or Pilates but only 6% of men (YouGov Health & Wellbeing Tracker, 2025).		
12a	Could the policy or project have the potential to affect individuals or communities on the basis of disability differently in a negative way? <i>you may wish to consider:</i> • <i>Physical access</i> • <i>Format of information</i> • <i>Time of interview or consultation event</i> • <i>Personal assistance</i> • <i>Interpreter</i> • <i>Induction loop system</i> • <i>Independent living equipment</i> • <i>Content of interview</i>	Y	N	Lack of inclusive programme design, or lack of awareness amongst instructors, could mean the activity less accessible to people with a disability. Inability to physically access facilities could create a negative impact. However, if done well, Pilates has the potential to be one of the most inclusive forms of exercise if accessibility and adaptability are built into the design from the outset.
12b	What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	14.9% of residents in Winchester district report having a disability that limits activity a little or a lot (Census 2021). Around 43% of disabled people in England achieve 150+ minutes of physical activity per week (the standard measure of being “regularly active”), while 39–43% of disabled people are inactive (doing less than 30 minutes per week). These figures are worse than for the overall population (Sport England’s Active Lives Survey).		

13a	Could the policy or project have the potential to affect individuals or communities on the basis of sexual orientation differently in a negative way?	¥	N	The proposed Pilates installation will not affect individuals or communities differently on the basis of sexual orientation.
13b	What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	N/A		
14a	Could the policy or project have the potential to affect individuals on the basis of age differently in a negative way?	¥	N	The proposed Pilates installation will not affect individuals or communities differently on the basis of age.
14b	What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	Around 14% of UK adults overall take part in yoga/Pilates and it is listed among mainstream exercise types across the entire adult population (yougov.com).		
15a	Could the policy or project have the potential to affect individuals or communities on the basis of religious belief differently in a negative way?	¥	N	The proposed Pilates installation will not affect individuals or communities differently on the basis of religious belief.
15b	What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	N/A		
16a	Could this policy or project have the potential to affect individuals on the basis of gender reassignment differently in a negative way?	¥	N	The proposed Pilates installation will not affect individuals or communities differently on the basis of gender reassignment.
16b	What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	N/A		

17a	Could this policy or project have the potential to affect individuals on the basis of marriage and civil partnership differently in a negative way?	Y	N	The proposed Pilates installation will not affect individuals or communities differently on the basis of marriage and civil partnership.
17b	What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	N/A		
18a	Could this policy or project have the potential to affect individuals on the basis of pregnancy and maternity differently in a negative way?	Y	N	Pilates is often recommended as a beneficial activity in pregnancy. However, it is important for it to be delivered by trained instructors who are aware of the risks for pregnant women.
18b	What existing evidence (either presumed or otherwise) do you have for this?	N/A		
19	Could any negative impacts that you identified in questions 10a to 15b create the potential for the policy to discriminate against certain groups on the basis of protected characteristics?	Y	N	• Various groups could be deterred from attending sessions if they are marketed and promoted in a way that makes them appear to be targeted at others. • Unqualified or inadequately trained instructors could result in people from certain groups not be properly accommodated, or taking part in activity inappropriate for them. • Inaccessible facilities or equipment could prevent certain people from participating.
20	Can this negative impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for certain groups on the basis of protected characteristics? Please provide your answer opposite against the relevant protected characteristic.	Y	N	Race: N/A Sex: Females tend to be under-represented in sport and physical activity, so facilities targeted to female participation help to reduce this imbalance. Disability: N/A Sexual orientation: N/A

				Age: N/A
				Gender reassignment: N/A
				Pregnancy and maternity: N/A
				Marriage and civil partnership: N/A
				Religious belief: N/A
21	How will you mitigate any potential discrimination that may be brought about by your policy or project that you have identified above?	- EA uses representative marketing and recruits in an open and transparent way to ensure a diverse staff team. - EA will schedule a programme of activity to meet the varying needs of different demographics. - EA provides training to staff that ensures an understanding of the needs of certain categories of people e.g. disabled, pregnant.		
22	Do any negative impacts that you have identified above impact on your service plan?	Y	N	

Signed by completing officer	Steve Lincoln
Signed by Service Lead or Corporate Head of Service	Suan Robbins:

REPORT TITLE: CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS TO VOLUNTARY OR FULL JOINT COMMITTEE ARRANGEMENTS

20 AUGUST 2026

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

Contact Officer: Gareth John Tel No: 01962 848 135 Email: gjohn@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

Council is asked to confirm appointments made by Cabinet at its meeting on 28 May 2026 to voluntary or full joint committee arrangements that are required between the constituent councils of new unitary authorities.

Predominately, these are regarding the Mid-Hampshire Unitary authority, but also when representation may be required for relevant meetings with the constituent councils of the South East Hampshire Council.

Council is also asked to note that Cabinet granted delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and the Director (Legal) to agree the terms of reference and any associated procedures of the two voluntary or full joint committees.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Council confirms the decision of Cabinet in respect of appointments to the Mid-Hampshire Unitary Authority voluntary and full joint committee, established under section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, as follows:

- i. Leader (Councillor Tod)
- ii. Deputy Leader (Councillor Cutler) - deputy

The appointments shall take effect immediately and shall continue for the duration of the committee, unless otherwise determined by Council.

2. That Council confirms the decision of Cabinet in respect of appointments to South-East Hampshire voluntary and full joint committee, as follows:

- i. Deputy Leader (Councillor Cutler)
- ii. Leader (Councillor Tod) - deputy

The appointments shall take effect immediately and shall continue for the duration of the committee, unless otherwise determined by Council.

3. That Council note that authority is delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and the Director (Legal) to agree the terms of reference and any associated procedures of the two voluntary or full joint committees.

1. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.1 Background

At its meeting on 28 May 2026, Cabinet agreed that the Leader (Councillor Tod) and Deputy Leader (Councillor Cutler) will continue to represent the Council at any relevant meeting on a cross Hampshire or emerging Unitary basis as required.

1.2 Mid-Hampshire Council voluntary and joint committee arrangements

Representation from Winchester City Council is required for any voluntary or full joint committee arrangements between the constituent councils of the emerging Mid-Hampshire Unitary authority.

Accordingly, the Leader (Councillor Tod) and Deputy Leader (Councillor Cutler) were appointed by Cabinet, with Councillor Cutler acting as deputy to Councillor Tod.

1.3 South-East Hampshire Council voluntary and joint committee arrangements

In addition, Cabinet agreed that the Deputy Leader represent Winchester City Council at any relevant meeting with regard to the emerging South-East Council authority.

Accordingly, the Deputy Leader (Councillor Cutler) and Leader (Councillor Tod) were appointed, with Councillor Tod acting as deputy to Councillor Cutler.

1.3 Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the Joint Committees will, in all likelihood, follow a common format across Hampshire and Isle of Wight, and Cabinet agreed that the terms of reference and any associated procedures be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Director (Legal).

2. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

To not make appointments for 2026/27. This option was rejected because representation on relevant meetings between the constituent councils and new unitary councils is necessary so to ensure that Winchester City Council has influence over the design, governance and implementation of the future authority, while continuing to represent the interests of its residents.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Previous Committee Reports

[CAB3552 – Annual Appointments to outside bodies 26/27](#)

Other Background Documents

None.

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