

**COUNCIL**

**15 NOVEMBER 2016**

**PROVISION OF NEW BEACH HUTS AND SEAFRONT FACILITIES: REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

**1. PURPOSE**

To seek Council's approval to Cabinets recommendations concerning the extension of the improvement to Poole's seafront assets through provision of refurbished and additional new beach huts and facilities and to carry out essential infrastructure works maximising the financial benefits.

**2. DECISIONS REQUIRED**

That Council:

- (i) Approves the investment of a further £1.79m to improve seafront infrastructure.
- (ii) Notes that this investment is in addition to the £3.62m Council committed to in July 2015 to develop new beach huts.
- (iii) Notes that this investment will support complementary work to the original beach hut proposal such as those associated with seafront infrastructure; the mitigation of future maintenance liabilities; improve public catering and toilet facilities as well as extending the scope of the original project.
- (iv) Delegates to the Chief Financial Officer the ability decide on the final funding mix of the scheme between the use of the Council's Capital Contingency or prudential borrowing.
- (v) Delegates to the Head of Culture and Community Learning the final progression of individual schemes within the programme.

**3. BACKGROUND/INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Cabinet at its Meeting on 1 November 2016 considered the Report enclosed with the Council Agenda I explained that this Project aimed to meet some of the demand for beach huts and enhance localised sites

in line with the objectives of the “Sustaining Poole’s Seafront” Supplementary Planning Document.

- 3.2 Following Council Resolution in July 2015 for the Council to invest and develop new beach huts and seafront facilities further analysis has shown that there are fundamental underlying issues with ground conditions along the whole of the Canford Cliffs seafront requiring additional work to achieve the project objectives. I refer Council to the Project proposals detailed at paragraph 4 of the enclosed Report.
- 3.3 Negotiations are continuing with the current Operator of the small kiosk at Canford Cliffs Beach. Every effort is being made to ensure the best use of the assets to support the Council’s Commercial and Strategic objectives.
- 3.4 There is ongoing work with Natural England to ensure that, in delivering the Project the Council upholds its legal responsibilities for protecting and enhancing endangered habitats and species and that appropriate mitigation is in place to manage any impacts.

#### **4. FINANCIAL/LEGAL/RISK MANAGEMENT/EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

All as detailed in the Report enclosed with the Council Agenda.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 I seek Council approval for the recommendations detailed at paragraph 2 of my Report and would like Council to join with me in congratulating the Officers in progressing the work to this stage.

Councillor John Rampton  
Portfolio Holder for Environment and Consumer Protection