



Deputy Director of Resources (Corporate Governance) &
Monitoring Officer
Davina Fiore

County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1UD
Telephone (01983) 821000

Agenda

Name of meeting	CROSS SOLENT SERVICES SCRUTINY TASK AND FINISH GROUP
Date	THURSDAY, 23 JANUARY 2014
Time	6.00PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Members	Cllrs Geoff Lumley and Paul Fuller (Joint chairmen), Paul Bertie, Rodney Downer, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Graham Perks, Colin Richards, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Wayne Whittle. IW Association of Local Councils – Councillor Harry Rees IW Youth Council – Zara Fuller IW Youth MP – Robert Selby Democratic Services Officer: Julie Martin, Senior Democratic Services Officer, telephone 821000, email <i>Julie.martin@iow.gov.uk</i>

1. Background

Full Council passed the following motion at its meeting on 16 October 2013 :-

THAT this Council is deeply concerned about further cuts to ferry services recently announced by Wightlink and the corresponding reduction in the service provided to Island Residents and visitors which has a direct impact upon the economy of the Island. As the Local Transport Authority the Council notes with regret that Wightlink failed to consult or engage with the Council or other Island stakeholders about their proposals. The Council is also very concerned about the levels of fares for crossings by motor vehicle on ferry services, which inhibits the ability of Island residents to travel for work, family, health and social reasons and again impacts greatly upon the economy of the Island and the quality of life for Island residents as well as having a direct effect on the tourist trade which is essential for the Island.

This Council resolves to take all possible steps it can to address this situation and, in addition, to support the Island's Member of Parliament and as an initial step the Isle of Wight Council invite senior representatives from each of the ferry companies to attend

an appropriate scrutiny panel to present and explain their position and take questions from the panel on behalf of the island community.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting on 7 November 2013, agreed to establish a task and finish group to deal with the motion and that it should comprise members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel with the chairmen of each being joint chairs of the group.

The Task and Finish Group will ascertain what arrangements could be put in place to ensure more effective liaison between the cross Solent ferry operators and the Island community on key aspects such as fares, frequency and timetabling together with facilitating a better understanding of the economic impact of service provision.

At the meeting held on 5 December 2013 evidence was taken from a range of stakeholders. This can be accessed via the Council's website :-

<http://www.iwight.com/Meetings/current/committeeDetail.aspx?cmteld=173>

2. **To take evidence from the cross Solent service operators**

To give an opportunity for representatives of the three cross Solent operators to respond to a number of issues identified at the meeting held on 5 December 2013 and provide additional information regarding service provision.

[Click here to view the responses](#)

[Click here to access recordings given by representatives of stakeholder groups](#)

DAVINA FIORE
Deputy Director of Resources (Corporate Governance) & Monitoring Officer
15 January 2014