



Strategic Manager for Organisational Change
and Corporate Governance
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Agenda

Name of meeting	ANNUAL COUNCIL
Date	WEDNESDAY, 25 MAY 2016
Time	5.30 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Members of the Committee	All Members of the Council

Senior Democratic Services Officer: Julie Martin, telephone 821000, email julie.martin@iow.gov.uk

PRAYERS led by Revd Canon Graham Morris

1. **To elect a Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.**
2. **To elect a Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.**
3. **Minutes**

To approve as a correct record and to sign the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16 March 2016 ([Paper A](#)).

4. **[Declarations of Interest](#)**

To invite Members to declare any interest they might have in the matters on the agenda.

5. **[Chairman's report, official announcements, communications and correspondence for the Council.](#)**

6. **To elect the Leader of the Council who will also be the Chairman of the Council's Executive.**



Details of this and other Council committee meetings can be viewed on the Isle of Wight Council's website at <http://www.iwight.com/Meetings/current/>. This information may be available in alternative formats on request. Please contact Julie Martin, telephone 821000 for details. Please note the meeting will be audio recorded and the recording will be placed on the website (except any part of the meeting from which the press and public are excluded).

7. **Committee Structure and Appointments, Scheme of Delegations and Constitutional Amendments** ([Paper B](#))

8. **To approve the following programme of ordinary Council meetings for the ensuing year** (all meetings to commence at 6pm):

15 June 2016

20 July 2016

21 September 2016

19 October 2016

16 November 2016

18 January 2017

22 February 2017 (**BUDGET COUNCIL**) (5.00 pm start)

15 March 2017

17 May 2017 (**ANNUAL COUNCIL**)

9. **Motion submitted under Procedure Rule 10 of the Council's Constitution**

(a) By Councillor Conrad Gauntlett

This Council notes:

The publication of the Government's White Paper, Educational Excellence Everywhere, that would have dictated that all Isle of Wight schools would have been forced to become academies by 2022.

The Council welcomes the withdrawal of this proposal from the White Paper so that schools can continue to choose to remain as maintained schools supported by the partnership created between the Island and HCC. We now look forward to continued success of the partnership in the best interests of Island schools and their pupils.

This Council further notes

The Schools National Funding Formula Consultation, which has the laudable aim of making funding fairer for schools nationwide. We look forward to hearing the outcome of this consultation so that we can be assured that it does represent a fair deal for Island schools.

The Island is still emerging from the impact of the 2011 schools re-organisation and should be left to concentrate on improving standards without further structural upheaval.

This Council requests:

The Chief Executive provides future opportunities for members to be informed about the direction of national educational policy and the outcome of the National Funding Formula Consultation.

(b) By Councillor Jonathan Bacon

Following the outcome of the High Court hearing on the 13th May 2016 concerning the enforcement of non-school attendance, the council made clear in its statement released on 13th May 2016 that it would be pressing

the Department for Education to urgently consider creating clear legislation on this matter for the benefit of parents, schools and local authorities alike.

The proceedings were taken to seek clarification on this matter and unfortunately the ruling has created massive uncertainty and cast a shadow of doubt over the policies of schools and local authorities across the country. The Department for Education had outlined what it considered to be 'regular' attendance, which was that children should attend school every day, and it is under that assumption that the Isle of Wight Council acted. It is also clear that attendance and educational attainment are intertwined.

In view of this the IW Council agrees to write to the DfE and :-

1. Urge the DfE to either amend or introduce new legislation to clarify the requirements for school attendance.
2. Request that any such amended or new legislation recognise fully the link between attendance and educational attainment.
3. Reconsider the enforcement of the rules on attendance by the fining of parents and consider the introduction of alternatives to this based on reward for and encouragement of good attendance.
4. Request the DfE to urgently clarify the position pending any new or amended legislation, and issue guidance both to Local Authorities, and to those parents currently facing fines or court proceedings in respect of the non-attendance of their children at school.

CHRIS MATHEWS
Strategic Manager for Organisational Change
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17 May 2016