

**FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS AND EXEMPT ITEMS
TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CABINET ON
25 NOVEMBER 2025**

The County Council is required to publish a document (the Forward Plan) 28 days before a meeting of its Cabinet, setting out:

- Key Decisions to be taken (see definition overleaf).
- Decisions to be taken in private i.e. Exempt Items (see explanation note overleaf)

This Forward Plan lists the Key Decisions and Exempt Items to be considered at the Cabinet meeting to be held on 25 November.

The Cabinet comprises up to ten members of the County Council and is appointed by the leader. At the time of writing, the Cabinet is made up of the following nine members of the County Council:-

Mr. D. Harrison CC (Chairman)
Mr. C. Abbott CC
Mr. K. Crook CC
Mr. H. Fowler CC
Mr. C. Pugsley CC
Mr. V. Richichi CC
Mr. M. Squires CC
Mr. A. Tilbury CC
Mr. C. Whitford CC

A copy of this document will be displayed on the County Council's website. Further details of items to be considered at the Cabinet meeting will also be published in the agenda for the meeting which will also be displayed on the County Council's website 5 clear days before the meeting.

Paragraph 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 provides for members of the public to make representations to the County Council on why an exempt item should be considered in public, rather than in private. Persons wishing to make such representations and/or obtain further details in respect of any issues referred to in the Plan should contact the undermentioned officer.

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Key Decisions

In the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 a “key decision” means an executive decision, which is likely -

(a) to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant local authority’s budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or .

(b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the relevant local authority.

Categories of Exempt Information

Schedule 12A (Access to Information: Exempt Information) of the Local Government Act 1972 lists the following categories of Exempt Information.

[NOTE – All categories are subject to the application of a public interest test – see paragraph 10.]

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes –
 - (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Public Interest Test – Paragraph 10

The above information is only exempt information if and so long as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Town and Country Planning

Information is not exempt information if it relates to proposed development for which the local planning authority may grant itself planning permission pursuant to regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992.

Matter for Decision	Key Decision?	Reporting Chief Officer(s)	Consultation Arrangements (Where applicable) Who and How?	Is the matter to be considered in open or exempt session?	Documents to be submitted (where known)
Local Government Reorganisation	Yes	Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Resources, and Director of Law and Governance	Engagement has taken place on the draft proposals with c.1,500 residents contributing their views. During October 2025, a series of workshops and events were held to gather views. This involved just under 1,000 residents, businesses, voluntary organisations, parish and town councils and staff members, and just under 800 shared feedback online. The Scrutiny Commission received a presentation on 29 October and will consider the matter again at its meeting on 10 November. The Council will consider the matter at its meeting on 12 November.	Open	Draft Business Case (to be appended to the report).