



# BUDGET DECISIONS REPORT

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 02/26

9 FEBRUARY 2026

The purpose of this Report is to provide Members with information regarding the changes needing to be made to projects/services to fit with the draft budget for 2026/27

## No. DETAILS

### 1) BEACH SAFETY

- a) The Beach Safety project has been run by the council for a number of years.
- b) In the budget consultation residents were asked about their support for the Beach Safety project.
  - 60% favoured the option of Beach Safety as per previous years from May to September
  - 33% favoured mid-July to early-September
  - 6% favoured outsourcing the service to a Lifeguard provider.
- c) At informal budget meetings, it was discussed that for the budget presented to this meeting, the provision would be reduced to 8 weeks.
- d) The additional cost to the budget, if this change is not agreed upon is circa £9,500; being an additional 1.58% per Band D Household.

### 2) CAR PARK CHARGES

- a) VTC increased charges in its four off-street car parks by around 20% last year, still keeping the cost below that charged in Isle of Wight Council car parks.
- b) Changes to Business Rates come into effect in 2026 which will significantly increase the running costs of the car parks from around £33,500 to nearly £40,000 (almost a 20% increase)
- c) It was therefore suggested that VTC should increase its charges, with the suggestion set out below.
- d) These charges are still lower than the Isle of Wight Council's parking charges which are also provided below for reference.  
(N.B. it is unknown at the time of writing this report whether the IWC will be increasing their charges this year)

#### Dudley Rd, Market St, and Pound Ln car parks:

Band	Current	Proposed
30 mins	£1.00	£1.10
0.5-1hr	£1.85	£2.00
1-2hrs	£3.25	£3.50
2-4hrs	£5.60	£6.00
4-6hrs	£7.50	£8.00
6-10hrs	£11.25	£11.75

Average rise in the proposed prices is 7%

#### Shore Road Car Park:

Band	Current	Proposed
Up to 1hr	£1.50	£1.75
1-4hrs	£3.00	£3.50
4-10hrs	£5.00	£5.50

Average increase in these prices is 14%

#### Isle of Wight Council charges:

- up to 1 hour - £2.05
- 1 to 2 hours - £3.60
- 2 to 4 hours - £6.20
- 4 to 6 hours - £8.30
- 6 to 10 hours - £12.50
- overnight charge (6pm - 8am) - £2.00

### 3) RECOMMENDATION

Members are recommended to agree to:

- Reduce Beach Safety provision to 8 weeks through the summer
- Increase car parking charges as detailed below