

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Title of meeting: Cabinet

Subject: Moving the Isle of Wight vehicle ferry terminal

Date of meeting: 11th June 2015

Report by: Owen Buckwell, Director of Property

Wards affected: St Thomas

1. Requested by

1.1 City Council at its meeting of the 17th March 2015

2. Purpose

2.1 In response to the Notice of Motion C; Moving the Isle of Wight vehicle ferry terminal proposed by Councillor Denny at the meeting of the City Council 17th March 2015

3. Recommendation

3.1 That Cabinet note the contents of the report and recommend to City Council accordingly.

4. Information Requested

4.1 Wightlink's current business model is focused on providing Island residents and tourists an attractive short crossing time (just 22 minutes for its foot passenger service and 45 minutes for its car ferry services) to and from the Isle of Wight. These compare favourably with the longer journey times offered by other competitors and contribute to the success of Wightlink, which is an important local employer.

4.2 The longer journey time which would result from Wightlink being based at the International Ferry Port would make its current fleet unsuitable. This is because, in order to handle the required capacity over longer journey times, much bigger ships would be required. A move to the International Ferry Port would require capital investment in excess of £100 million by Wightlink in retonnage.

4.3 Wightlink has just announced a £45 million investment in its Portsmouth Gunwharf to Fishbourne route which includes remodelling of its Gunwharf terminal. This investment should be welcomed by the City as it will ensure the continued success of this important local employer.

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

.....
Signed by (Head of Service)

Appendices:**Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972**

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

| Title of document | Location |
|-------------------|----------|
| | |
| | |