

**CABINET – DECISION NOTICE**

12 July 2023

Present:-

Councillors R Croad, A Davis, R Gilbert, J Hart (Chair), S Hughes, A Leadbetter, J McInnes (Vice-Chair), A Saywell and P Twiss

Members attending in accordance with Standing Orders 8 and 25

Councillors J Bradford, J Brazil, A Connett, H Gent, C Whitton and M Wrigley (in person)

Y Atkinson, J Hodgson (virtual attendance)

\* **1** Minutes

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2023 be signed as a correct record.

**6** **The Council's Strategic Plan 2021 to 2025 and Corporate Plan for the next twelve months**

**RESOLVED**

(a) that the commitment to, and support for, the “Best Place” Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025 is reaffirmed;

(b) that a Report on progress to date with the Strategic Plan 2021-2025 be prepared for consideration by the Council at its meeting on 7 September 2023;

(c) that the six areas of focus for the Corporate Plan for the next 12 months aligned to the risks set out in section 4 of the Report, be agreed:

- I. Governance and performance review.
- II. Value for money and financial sustainability.
- III. People strategy.
- IV. Replacement systems (FINEST and CareFirst).
- V. Equality, diversity and inclusion.
- VI. Devon, Plymouth and Torbay devolution deal.

(d) that the most significant risks facing the Council and the approach to managing them, as described in section 4, be agreed and further invite regular reports to future meetings on the management of those risks; and

(e) to further note that Directorate/service area plans will be developed over the next three months linked to the: Strategic Plan 2021-2025, areas of focus, key risks and People Strategy – ‘People First’.

\* **7**      **Newton Abbot, Queen Street - Pedestrian Enhancements**

(Councillor Wrigley declared a personal interest in this matter by virtue of being Leader of Teignbridge District Council and Chair of the Teignbridge Highways and Traffic Orders Committee).

**RESOLVED**

(a) that the design and construction of pedestrian enhancements on Queen Street, Newton Abbot, as shown in Appendix 1 of the Report, at an estimated cost of £1,300,000, be approved;

(b) that an increase to the Climate Change, Environment & Transport 2023/24 capital programme by £477,500, funded by external grant, further be approved; and

(c) that the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport be given delegated powers in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highway Management and Local Member, to make minor amendments to the scheme as required.

\* **8**      **Consultation Response on the draft Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Climate Adaptation Strategy**

**RESOLVED** that the proposed consultation response at Section 3 from Devon County Council to the Devon Climate Emergency partnership on the draft Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Climate Adaptation Strategy be approved.

\* **9**      **Proposed Devon County Civic University Agreement**

**RESOLVED** that Devon County Civic University Agreement be approved.

\* **10**      **Proposals for the Mobile Library Service**

**RESOLVED** that Option 2, as outlined in the Report, to ‘Decommission the Mobile Library vehicles and provide £25K transition support for vulnerable users to continue to access alternative library provision’ be approved.

\* 11

**Re-focussing the Devon Children And Families Partnership**

**RESOLVED**

(a) that the arrangements proposed by the Chief Executive for the discharge of the Council's duties as a safeguarding partner to:

- (i) co-ordinate safeguarding services in conjunction with the integrated care board and Chief Officer of Police in Devon;
- (ii) be part of a strategic leadership group supporting and engaging with other agencies; and
- (iii) to implement local and national learning (including from serious child safeguarding incidents);

as required by S16E of the Children Act 2004 and Working Together 2018 and as set out in the Report, be approved; and

(b) that the decision about whether to appoint an independent chair or scrutineer for the Devon Safeguarding Children Partnership be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Schools, if the Executive Group recommends that an independent chair should be appointed, and funding can be identified.

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**Notice(s) of Motion**

**(a) Debate not Hate - Councillor Hannaford**

**RESOLVED** that the County Council:

(i) recognises the actions already taken in support of the debate not hate agenda and endorses a zero tolerance approach to abuse of both staff and Councillors;

(ii) continues to develop tools and give advice that supports Councillors in relation to safety issues and tackling inappropriate behaviour, including encouraging Elected Members to use the reporting mechanism in place;

(iii) works with the Police to establish a link whereby advice and support can be sought and develop a procedure document to accompany this; and

(iv) write to Devon MP's, copying in the LGA, outlining the Council's support for the campaign and encouraging them to promote this agenda to Government and support any actions that seek to address the abuse and intimidation of those in public life.

**(b) DCC to Treat Care Experience as a Protected Characteristic - Councillor Hannaford**

**RESOLVED**

(i) that Council recognises that care experienced people are a group who are likely to face discrimination;

(ii) that it recognises that Councils have a duty to put the needs of disadvantaged people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration;

(iii) that future decision, services and policies made and adopted by the Council should be assessed through Equality Impact Assessments to determine the impact of changes on people with care experience, alongside those who formally share a protected characteristic;

(iv) that in the delivery of the Public Sector Equality Duty the Council includes care experience in the publication and review of Equality Objectives and the annual publication of information relating to people who share a protected characteristic in services and employment; and

(v) that this Council will treat care experience as if it were a Protected Characteristic.

**(c) Teachers Pay – Investing in Children’s Futures - Councillor Hannaford**

**RESOLVED** that the Council continues its positive work with the F40 national campaign and its ongoing engagement with Government to ensure:

Equitable funding is provided by central Government to all Devon schools to allow them to maintain and deliver a high-quality education, to enable them to safeguard all children and young people and meet the full cost of any pay awards to support the recruitment and retention of a strong and dedicated school workforce in the County.

**(d) Governance Review and Consultations - Councillor Atkinson**

**RESOLVED** that Council be recommended to

(i) note that a Special Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee has been arranged on the 27 July to ensure Member Scrutiny and input into the process, as requested by the Motion, the outcome of which will inform the Special Cabinet meeting on 23 August, where three of the consultation outcomes are due for consideration;

(ii) note, that in relation to day care and respite services, no decisions have been made and both matters will come to a future Cabinet meeting later in the financial year; and

(iii) ensure that the Governance review incorporates a review of consultation processes as a separate workstream

**(e) Devon 20's Plenty - Councillor Hodgson**

**RESOLVED** that the Council will work with communities that wish to see a new 20mph speed limit introduced, where it will be beneficial to road safety and sustainable travel, either via the "expressions of interest" process or where communities wish to self-fund their own speed limit.

\* **13**      **Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee - Treasury Management Stewardship Outturn.**

**RESOLVED** that the Members of the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee be thanked for their consideration and review of the Annual Treasury Management Stewardship Report for 2022/2023 and that the document be further noted.

\* **14**      **Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee - Locality Budget Annual Report**

**RESOLVED**

(a) that the Report be further endorsed, and Members be encouraged to spend their locality budgets to support communities; and

(b) that Officers be asked to consider how expenditure can be published on the Council's website.

\* **15**      **Report of Site Visit ref referral from East Devon HATOC on Speed Limit Colyford and Colyton on B3161**

**RESOLVED** that a departure from Policy is not agreed.

\* **16**      **Report of site visit ref referral from East Devon HATOC on Speed Limit Honiton Road/Tithebarn Way Exeter**

**RESOLVED** that a departure from Policy is not agreed.

\* 18 **Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the following be endorsed and any recommendations to Cabinet therein be approved:

Devon Education Forum – 21 June 2023  
Interviewing - Farms Estate Committee - 23 June 2023  
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education – 23 June 2023 – including endorsement of minute 26 relating to the updated SACRE Constitution.

\* 20 **Forward Plan**

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Cabinet reviewed the Forward Plan and determined those items of business to be defined as key and framework decisions and included in the Plan from the date of this meeting onwards reflecting the requirements of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

\* 21 **Public Health Annual Report 2022/2023**

**RESOLVED** that the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2022-23, which focuses on the importance of prevention to improve the health and wellbeing of Devon residents, be received and the recommendations contained therein be noted.