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To: The Chair and Members of the
Cabinet

County Hall
Topsham Road
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EX2 4QD

(See below)

Your ref :
Our ref :

Date : 4 May 2020
Please ask for : Karen Strahan, 01392 382264

Email: karen.strahan@devon.gov.uk
:

CABINET

Wednesday, 13th May, 2020

A meeting of the Cabinet is to be held on the above date at 10.30 am as a virtual meeting, for the joining instructions please contact the Clerk for further details on attendance and / or public participation. to consider the following matters.

P NORREY
Chief Executive

AGENDA

15 Question(s) from Members of the Public (Pages 1 - 2)

Notice of all items listed above have been included in the Council's Forward Plan for the required period, unless otherwise indicated. The [Forward Plan](#) is published on the County Council's website.

Notice of the decisions taken by the Cabinet will be sent by email to all Members of the Council within 2 working days of their being made and will, in the case of key decisions, come into force 5 working days after that date unless 'called-in' or referred back in line with the provisions of the Council's Constitution. The Minutes of this meeting will be published on the Council's website, as indicated below, as soon as possible.

Members are reminded that Part II Reports contain confidential information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s).

Members are also reminded of the need to dispose of such reports carefully and are therefore invited to return them to the Democratic Services Officer at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal.



**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
Wednesday 13 May 2020**

1. QUESTION FROM MR M WALTON (EXETER CYCLING CAMPAIGN) (NOT IN ATTENDANCE)

Re: Lockdown Easement and Cycling and Walking Measures for Safe Spaces

The Secretary of State for Transport has stated that as lockdown eases we will need to enable people to get to work by cycling and walking.

The majority of journeys we take are of distances that are easily walked, cycled or e-biked. However there is currently too little space allocated on our highways for active travellers to do so at a safe distance.

Can the Cabinet confirm how many kilometres, at what locations and at what speed will safe space be opened up for people to walk and cycle across their town or city?

Thank you.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR HUGHES

We welcome the Secretary of State for Transport's announcement on 9th May 2020 of a £250m emergency active travel fund, which is the first stage of a £2bn investment in walking and cycling. This is a great opportunity to embed some of the greener, healthier travel habits we've seen during this lockdown period. We must find ways to support people returning to work actively and facilitating safe environments in our town centres and outside schools, which could be reopening as early as June.

In preparation for this, officers have been actively pursuing potential temporary measures, which will support social distancing in areas of highest pedestrian footfall and supporting active travel on key routes to work. There will be a focus on city and town centres where narrow footways could restrict pedestrian movement and on our urban walking and cycling networks where funding may enable us to fill gaps in our networks so as to encourage mode shift. We await further details of the Government funding and how it may be allocated to authorities so I cannot provide the specifics of kilometres, locations or timescales; however, in the meantime we continue to develop these plans to enable their earliest delivery.

We will also be communicating with town and parish councils and seeking views from the business community to understand how we can support any local aspirations for pedestrian and cycle improvements, for instance through temporary closures in town centres, one-way restrictions or suspension of parking to enable wider footway/cycleways. In light of the revised Government guidance we will be updating our webpages to make this process quicker and more responsive to community needs.

