



Phil Norrey
Chief Executive

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To: The Chair and Members of the
Corporate Infrastructure and
Regulatory Services Scrutiny
Committee

County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
Devon
EX2 4QD

(See below)

Your ref :
Our ref :

Date : 16 June 2020
Please ask for : Wendy Simpson 01392 384383

Email: wendy.simpson@devon.gov.uk

**CORPORATE INFRASTRUCTURE AND REGULATORY SERVICES SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, 24th June, 2020

A meeting of the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee is to be held on the above date at 10.30 am at This will be 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

SUPPLEMENT

- 8 Standing Overview Group: Exeter Transport Strategy
Notes of the meeting held on 18 June 2020, **to follow**

*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.*

Membership

Councillors A Dewhirst (Chair), P Colthorpe (Vice-Chair), Y Atkinson, K Ball, J Berry, R Bloxham, J Brook, P Crabb, A Eastman, R Edgell, I Hall, J Hook, R Radford, C Slade, C Whitton and J Hodgson

Declaration of Interests

Members are reminded that they must declare any interest they may have in any item to be considered at this meeting, prior to any discussion taking place on that item.

Access to Information

Any person wishing to inspect any minutes, reports or lists of background papers relating to any item on this agenda should contact Wendy Simpson 01392 384383.

Agenda and minutes of the Committee are published on the Council's Website and can also be accessed via the Modern.Gov app, available from the usual stores..

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In addition, anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings may do so unless the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting or there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chair. Any filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible from a single fixed position without the use of any additional lighting; focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard also to the wishes of any member of the public present who may not wish to be filmed. As a matter of courtesy, anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chair or the Democratic Services Officer in attendance so that all those present may be made aware that is happening.

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Public Participation

Devon's residents may attend and speak at any meeting of a County Council Scrutiny Committee when it is reviewing any specific matter or examining the provision of services or facilities as listed on the agenda for that meeting.

Scrutiny Committees set aside 15 minutes at the beginning of each meeting to allow anyone who has registered to speak on any such item. Speakers are normally allowed 3 minutes each.

Anyone wishing to speak is requested to register in writing to the Clerk of the Committee (details above) by the deadline, outlined in the Council's [Public Participation Scheme](#), indicating which item they wish to speak on and giving a brief outline of the issues/ points they wish to make. The representation and the name of the person making the representation will be recorded in the minutes.

Alternatively, any Member of the public may at any time submit their views on any matter to be considered by a Scrutiny Committee at a meeting or included in its work Programme direct to the Chair or Members of that Committee or via the Democratic Services & Scrutiny Secretariat (committee@devon.gov.uk). Members of the public may also suggest topics (see: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/democracy/committee-meetings/scrutiny-committees/scrutiny-work-programme/>)

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Induction loop system available

Committee Terms of Reference

(1) To review the implementation of the Council's existing policy and budget framework and ensure effective scrutiny of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy and policies and consider the scope for new policies for the Council's use and management of its resources and the discharge of its corporate and strategic services and governance arrangements and community safety activity, including emergency planning and the Council's functions in the scrutiny of authorities responsible for crime and disorder strategies.

(2) To review the implementation of existing policies and to consider the scope for new policies with regard to all aspects of the discharge of the Council's 'place shaping and universal population services' functions concerning the environment, economic activity and enterprise, integrated planning and transport and community services, including libraries, arts and cultural heritage of the County, an integrated youth service and post 16 education & skills;

(3) To assess the effectiveness of decisions of the Cabinet in these areas of the Council's statutory activity and relate overview and scrutiny to the achievement of the Council's strategic priorities and objectives and of delivering best value in all its activities;

(4) To make reports and recommendations as appropriate arising from this area of overview and scrutiny.

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SatNav – Postcode EX2 4QD

Walking and Cycling Facilities

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The nearest mainline railway stations are Exeter Central (5 minutes from the High Street) and St David's and St Thomas's both of which have regular bus services to the High Street. Bus Service H (which runs from St David's Station to the High Street) continues and stops in Wonford Road (at the top of Matford Lane shown on the map) a 2/3 minute walk from County Hall, en route to the RD&E Hospital (approximately a 10 minutes walk from County Hall, through Gras Lawn on Barrack Road).

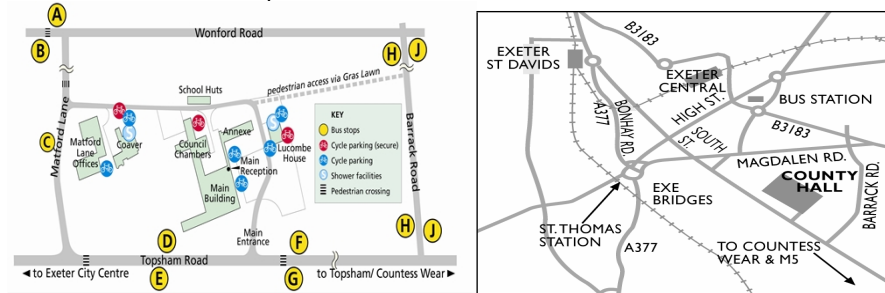
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NB   Denotes bus stops

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First Aid

Contact Main Reception (extension 2504) for a trained first aider.

18 June 2020

**Standing Overview Group – Corporate, Infrastructure and Regulatory Services
Committee**

Exeter Transport Strategy

Recommendations

The SOG recommends to Cabinet that:

1. Consideration to make some of the temporary pop-up measures to support walking and cycling be made permanent and for the strategy to extend this to “Green Lanes” supporting active travel access from villages on the edge of the city.
2. That a list of potential transport projects is compiled with the aim of creating a clear implementation plan to support the strategy.

Members discussed the following

Background

The SOG met to discuss and comment on the Exeter Transport Strategy and its recommendations. Members were presented with a summary of the work undertaken to date including the draft transport strategy, public consultation responses and changes since this consultation, including how it has been updated to align more with Devon County Council’s declaration of a climate emergency.

The SOG was invited to review the recommendations and provide comments before the Exeter Transport Strategy goes to cabinet.

Report

The SOG broadly supported the recommendations of the Strategy and were appreciative of the Strategy’s focus on improved travel choices for travel into the city; creating better places to support active travel opportunities for people travelling within the city and embracing the behaviour change and decarbonising opportunities arising from better technology and innovation. Furthermore, members were impressed by the consultation, which received largely positive reaction from more than 1100 public responses as well as from key stakeholders and organisations. Members also noted that the current COVID-19 pandemic has created uncertainty, but the strategy remains valid based on the travel behaviour findings during lockdown.

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Issues Identified by Members

Connectivity

The SOG supported the need to encourage sustainable travel from outlying market towns and villages into Exeter and that this should not be constrained by municipal boundaries (i.e. the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan authority areas) as the city has a draw from a wider County and sub regional area. The group appreciated that the bus and rail proposals in the Greater Connectivity theme remains valid but would like to see consideration of faster, more direct public transport services to increase mode shift ambitions.

Green Lanes

Members applauded the current temporary pop-up urban measures that are being put in place to increase walking and cycling access during the COVID-19 pandemic. Members expressed a desire to see some of these become a more permanent feature and also extend this to include green lanes, which would support improved active travel access from villages on the edges of the city.

Longer term projects

The SOG felt it would be important to have an implementation plan to make clearer what future projects are planned for Exeter that support the strategy. The SOG recognises that Cabinet recently set out a 2-year programme as part of the transport capital programme report; however, a long list of measures would be beneficial. Some of these projects may prove to be impractical, but it would at least provide greater clarity of how the strategy might be fulfilled.

Impact on business

The SOG felt that many businesses may be concerned about the impact of parking removal in some local centres, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Members were nevertheless supportive of the overall ambition of the strategy but highlighted the need to engage with Exeter businesses on specific proposals.

Actions

The SOG broadly supports the recommendations in the Exeter Transport Strategy with the addition of the recommendations above and asks that these be presented to Cabinet.

Present

Councillors Alistair Dewhirst (Chair), Ackland, Asvachin, Atkinson, Aves, Ball, Bloxham, Colthorpe, Dewhirst, Hall, Hook, Leadbetter, Randall-Johnson, Slade and Whitton
Councillor Rufus Gilbert (Cabinet member)
William Pratt, Principal Transportation Planning Officer
Jamie Hlland, Transportation Strategy & Road Safety Manager

COUNCILLOR DEWHIRST
CHAIR