

Phil Norrey
Chief Executive

To: The Chairman and Members of
the Cabinet

County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
Devon
EX2 4QD

(See below)

Your ref :
Our ref :

Date : 31 May 2016
Please ask for : Rob Hooper, 01392 382300

Email: rob.hooper@devon.gov.uk
:

CABINET

Wednesday, 8th June, 2016

A meeting of the Cabinet is to be held on the above date at 10.30 am in the Committee Suite, County Hall, Exeter to consider the following matters.

P NORREY
Chief Executive

A G E N D A

PART I - OPEN COMMITTEE

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2016 (previously circulated).

3 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

Items which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.

4 Chairman's Announcements

5 Petitions

6 Question(s) from Members of the Council

7 Revenue & Capital Outturn 2015/16 (Pages 1 - 30)

Report of the County Treasurer ([CT/16/46](#)) on the Revenue and Capital Outturn for 2015/16, attached.

Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions

FRAMEWORK DECISION

None

KEY DECISIONS

8 Exeter Strategic Cycle Route (Pages 31 - 40)

Report of the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment ([PTE/16/27](#)) seeking approval to a strategic cycle network for Exeter and detailed proposals for the design of Routes E3 (between Redhayes Bridge and the City Centre) and E4 (between Redhayes Bridge and the University of Exeter Streatham Campus), attached.

Electoral Divisions(s): Alphington & Cowick; Duryard & Pennsylvania; Exwick & St Thomas; Heavitree and Whipton Barton; Newtown and Polsloe; Pinhoe & Mincinglake; Priory & St Leonards; St David's & St James; St Loyes & Topsham

9 Barnstaple, Roundswell Phase 2 A39 Pedestrian Cycle Bridge (Pages 41 - 46)

Report of the Head of Highways, Capital Development & Waste ([PTE/16/28](#)) seeking scheme and estimate approval for a new cycle/pedestrian bridge, attached.

Electoral Divisions(s): Chulmleigh and Swimbridge; Fremington Rural

STANDING ITEMS

10 Notices of Motion (Pages 47 - 52)

Report of the County Solicitor ([CS/16/21](#)) on the Notices of Motion referred to the Cabinet by the County Council on 12 May 2016, incorporating relevant briefing notes to facilitate the Cabinet's discussion of the matters raised, attached.

11 Question(s) from Members of the Public

12 Minutes (Pages 53 - 56)

Farms Estate Committee, 28 April 2016, attached

[NB: Minutes of County Council Committees are published on the Council's Website at: http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/your_council/decision_making/cma/index_exc.htm]

13 Delegated Action/Urgent Matters (Pages 57 - 58)

The Registers of Decisions taken by Members under the urgency provisions or delegated powers will be available for inspection at the meeting in line with the Council's Constitution and Regulation 13 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. A summary of such decisions taken since the last meeting is attached.

14 Forward Plan

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Cabinet is requested to review the list of forthcoming business (previously circulated) and to determine which items are to be defined as key and/or framework decisions and included in the Plan from the date of this meeting.

[NB: The Forward Plan is available on the Council's website <http://democracy.devon.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=133&RD=0>]

PART II - ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

None


MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

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 at <http://www.devon.gov.uk/cma.htm>

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.

Membership
Councillors J Hart (Chairman), B Parsons, S Barker, R Croad, A Davis, A Leadbetter, J McInnes, J Clatworthy and S Hughes
Cabinet Member Remits
Councillors Hart (Policy & Corporate), Barker (Adult Social Care & Health Services), Clatworthy (Resources & Asset Management), Croad (Community & Environmental Services), Davis (Improving Health & Wellbeing), S Hughes (Highway Management & Flood Prevention), Leadbetter (Economy, Growth and Cabinet Liaison for Exeter), McInnes (Children, Schools & Skills) and Parsons (Performance & Engagement)
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 the Council's / Cabinet Forward Plan or any Reports or Background Papers relating to any item on this agenda should contact Rob Hooper on 01392 382300. The Forward Plan and the Agenda and Minutes of the Committee are published on the Council's Website.
Webcasting, Recording or Reporting of Meetings and Proceedings
The proceedings of this meeting may be recorded for broadcasting live on the internet via the 'Democracy Centre' on the County Council's website. The whole of the meeting may be broadcast apart from any confidential items which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public. For more information go to: http://www.devoncc.public-i.tv/core/
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 Chairman. 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 Chairman or the Democratic Services Officer in attendance so that all those present may be made aware that is happening.
Members of the public may also use Facebook and Twitter or other forms of social media to report on proceedings at this meeting. An open, publicly available Wi-Fi network (i.e. DCC) is normally available for meetings held in the Committee Suite at County Hall. For information on Wi-Fi availability at other locations, please contact the Officer identified above.
Questions to the Cabinet / Public Participation
A Member of the Council may ask the Leader of the Council or the appropriate Cabinet Member a question about any subject for which the Leader or Cabinet Member has responsibility. Any member of the public resident in the administrative area of the county of Devon may also ask the Leader a question upon a matter which, in every case, relates to the functions of the Council. Questions must be delivered to the Office of the Chief Executive Directorate by 12 noon on the fourth working day before the date of the meeting. For further information please contact Mr Hooper on 01392 382300 or look at our website at: http://new.devon.gov.uk/democracy/guide/public-participation-at-committee-meetings/
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If you need a copy of this Agenda and/or a Report in another format (e.g. large print, audio tape, Braille or other languages), please contact the Information Centre on 01392 380101 or email to: centre@devon.gov.uk or write to the Democratic and Scrutiny Secretariat at County Hall, Exeter, EX2 4QD.
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**Revenue & Capital
Outturn 2015/2016**



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CT/16/46

Cabinet

8th June 2016

2015/16 REVENUE & CAPITAL OUTTURN

Report of the County Treasurer

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Cabinet (and confirmation under the provisions of the Council's Constitution) before taking effect.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- a) Members note that the draft outturn for 2015/16, after carry forwards and contributions to balances, reserves and provisions, shows an underspend of £35,000 against the approved revenue budget;
- b) The 2015/16 revenue outturn be approved, including transactions on earmarked reserves and provisions, spending against budget, treatment of over and under spending and the implications for balances, as set out in the Tables;
- c) The 2015/16 capital outturn be approved including spending against budget and proposed carry forwards, in accordance with the Tables;
- d) The use of capital finance as set out in the Statement of Determination of Capital Finance on page 27 of the Capital Outturn Report be approved;
- e) A total of £18.128 millions is set aside from revenue resources as provision for credit liabilities (to repay debt);
- f) The Prudential Indicators as set out in section 11 of this report be noted;
- g) The total monies owing to the Council as at 31st March 2016 be noted.

1. Background and Summary

- 1.1 Members have received regular budget monitoring reports throughout 2015/16 in which budget pressures and risks have been identified. The most significant of these related to Children's Social Work and Child Protection. The financial year has now ended and it is pleasing that the final position is a small underspending of £35,000 after transfers to Reserves. In February of this year Members approved a change to the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for both 2015/16 and 2016/17. As anticipated in the Medium Term Financial Strategy this change has enabled £11.9 millions to be transferred to the Budget Management Reserve with the intention that this will be used in 2017/18 to help to protect services. Detailed explanations for the final financial position for each service area are given in section 2 of this report.

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2. Spending

2.1 People Services

- 2.1.1 The services that comprise People show an overspend of £9.816 millions at the end of the financial year.
- 2.1.2 Members will be aware that Children's Social Work and Child protection faced very great pressure in the year and finished 2015/16 overspent by nearly £13.9 millions. This was mainly the result of more children being placed in care than allowed for in the budget. Average prices paid for their care were also higher as more children were placed in higher cost residential settings and external foster placements than had been planned. The cost of Social Workers was also higher than budgeted due to higher numbers being employed in the first half of the year and also having to pay higher agency rates for temporary workers. The numbers of both agency workers and Social workers were reduced during the year and by the last two months of the year were within budgeted levels.
- 2.1.3 Adult Social Care also faced great underlying pressures on spending, especially on fee rates in both residential/nursing care and personal care in the home. Despite this, an underspending of just over £1.8 millions was achieved. This underspending was the result of some savings being realised more quickly than anticipated and containing demand by working closely with partners in the Health Service and paying close attention to eligibility criteria. However, many of the reductions which led to this result are by their nature temporary and may not be available to ease pressures in 2016/17.
- 2.1.4 In Social Care Commissioning there was similar early achievement of savings from planned contract reductions resulting in an underspend of £3.2 millions, as spending in these and other areas was curtailed wherever possible.
- 2.1.5 Education and Learning overspent by £787,000, entirely due to School Transport, with higher contractor costs, less income and more children with Special Educational Needs requiring transport. All other areas of spending were reduced wherever possible to mitigate the overspending in transport.
- 2.1.6 Carry forward proposals for grants and contributions received total £30.0 millions. Nearly all of this, £29.1 millions, is in respect of Dedicated Schools Grant, which funds schools and education and is ring fenced to these purposes. If unspent it must be carried forward. Of this amount £23.2 millions comprise sums carried forward by schools themselves., The remaining £5.9 million is made up of sums carried forward for Early Years, High Needs and central provision and an allowance for the requirement for new schools which will need to be covered over several years.
- 2.1.7 Apart from carry forwards of grants and contributions received, the only other carry forward requested is an amount of £221,000, jointly agreed with our health partners to fund an expanded Rapid Response service, which aims to give swift and sometimes intensive support to people at home who might otherwise need to be admitted to hospital or residential care.

2.2 Place Services

- 2.2.1 The outturn for Place Services shows an overall net underspend of £2.464 millions after taking into account use of reserves and carry forward requests. This variation mainly resulted from an underspend on Highways and Traffic Management and a combination of underspending and increased income from Planning, Transportation and Environment.
- 2.2.2 Capital Development and Waste Management are showing an underspend of £427,000. At the start of the year Waste Services were predicting an overspend due to increased tonnages. There has been an increase in waste disposal with costs increasing by £2.1 millions. However, during the year Waste were able to make reductions elsewhere to bring the service back to an underspend of £146,000. These savings related to reduced costs on the first year of operation of the Energy from Waste Plants along with one-off savings from the special works budget. The Engineering Design Group over recovered on fees due to increased productivity which resulted in a year end underspend of £281,000.
- 2.2.3 Planning, Transportation and Environment are showing a net underspend of £1.017 million. This includes increased income relating to inspection and planning fees of £678,000 due to an increase in large applications. There is also a net underspend of £339,000 partly due to slippage on the Minerals Plan examination timescale and the development of the Greater Exeter Local Plan and additional income streams developed during the year.
- 2.2.4 Highways and Traffic Management is showing an underspend of £823,000. There has been a reduction in spend of £1.2 millions due to a mild winter with no significant storms. Increased spend on planned and routine works along with an overspend on grass cutting during the implementation of the new regime has resulted in an overspend of £636,000. The reduced energy and maintenance costs of street lighting has resulted in an underspend of £334,000 with other minor overspends of £75,000.
- 2.2.5 Services for Communities are showing a small underspend of £115,000. This relates to an underspend on planned operational spend for Bus Support costs of £363,000 mainly due to using different funding streams during the year. This has been offset by an overspend on Libraries of £307,000. Libraries were transferred to a Public Sector Mutual from 1st April 2016. During the year focus moved to the work to achieve divestment of the service in a relatively short timescale which resulted in planned savings not being implemented. Other minor variations resulted in further underspending of £59,000.
- 2.2.6 Economy and Enterprise are showing a small net underspend of £82,000 due to spend slippage on the Connecting Devon and Somerset (Broadband) project resulting from the contractual complexities of implementing this scheme.

2.3 Corporate Services

- 2.3.1 The outturn for corporate services represents a net underspend of £2.416 million, after taking into account carry forward requests.
- 2.3.2 Business strategy and support final outturn represents a net underspend of £649,000 including staff vacancies, savings in IT contracts, savings in premises costs and delayed projects. Carry forward requests totalling £322,000 are sought in relation to facilities commitments, including delayed projects.

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- 2.3.3 County Solicitors show a net underspend of £779,000 as a result of delayed implementation of new legislation in the Coroners service (Medical Examiner) and increased income, as well as reduced fees and other net savings for the Registration service.
- 2.3.4 For Human Resources the net underspend is £346,000 as a result of staff vacancies, savings in training and additional income.
- 2.3.5 Treasurer's Service final outturn represents an under spend of £214,000, the majority of which relates to staff vacancies and additional income for finance services. In addition there are net savings in Authority-wide unfunded pensions of £395,000 resulting from an increase in mortality rates, alongside net savings in Bank Charges of £33,000.
- 2.3.6 Public Health show a net break even, with savings in NHS Health Check Programme offset by increased costs for Sexual Health and Public Mental Health. The in-year net reduction in grant income of £1,645,000 has been offset by funding from Public Health ring-fenced reserve.
- 2.4 Other Items
 - 2.4.1 Capital Financing costs are £11.9 millions less than budgeted due to the change in-year to the Minimum Revenue Provision policy. As outlined in the Medium Term Financial Strategy this sum is being added to the Budget Management Reserve with the intention that it will be used in 2017/18 to help protect services. Interest Receivable is £275,000 more than budgeted due mainly to the investment in the CCL Property Fund.
 - 2.4.2 £582,000 of the 2013/14 infrastructure development budget was carried forward to 2015/16. It is recommended that £250,000 is carried forward to support the remaining projects in 2016/17 and that £89,000 of the efficiency support budget is carried forward to enable the continuation of Chapter 8 training with Parish Councils.
 - 2.4.3 The Government has provided £5.8 millions to fund the implementation of the Care Act. It is recommended that £2.9 millions is carried forward to 2016/17 to fund the ongoing costs of Part I of the Act. It is also recommended that £1.1 million of the Dartington School budget is carried forward to fund the ongoing revenue costs of the Dartington School rebuild and legal costs.
 - 2.4.4 It is recommended that £420,000 of Direct Revenue Support for Capital is carried forward to 2016/17 in relation to flood relief schemes and £513,000 for Special Educational Needs and Disability.
 - 2.4.5 £391,000 is estimated to be received in relation to business rates pooling gain; it is recommended that it is set-aside in the earmarked reserve to help mitigate future business rate risk associated with backdated appeals and other losses.

3. General Balances

- 3.1 The working balance at 31st March 2015 was £14.601 millions. The review of the financial risk assessment prepared when the 2015/16 Budget was considered indicates that the Council should hold a working balance of about £14 millions. The outturn has enabled £35,000 to be added to the working balance.

4. Earmarked Reserves

- 4.1 At the beginning of the financial year, earmarked reserves (excluding schools and non-schools carry forwards) stood at £47.5 millions. During the year earmarked reserves have increased by a net £8.6 millions to £56.1 millions. Of this increase £11.9 millions relates to an increase in the Budget management Reserve from savings achieved through the change to Minimum Revenue Provision policy and £600,000 from Pension Contributions. It is planned that these sums will be taken from the Reserve in 2017/18 to support services and to provide some resilience against any increase in pension costs following the Triennial Valuation in 2016/17. As outlined in paragraph 2.3.6 the Public Health service suffered an in year cut to its Central Government Grant funding that has required a withdrawal of £1.625 millions from their ring-fenced reserve. The Transformation Reserve has reduced by £3.3 millions which is the net effect of the planned contribution to the reserve of £2.5 millions and in year costs of £5.8 millions
- 4.2 Details of earmarked reserves are contained on page 10.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 A budget underspend has been achieved in spite of significant financial pressures within People Services. The in-year change in the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy has enabled £12 millions to be added to the Budget Management Reserve that will provide some protection to the services in 2017/18. The proposed outturn is £500.070 millions an underspend of £35,000.
- 5.2 In 2016/17 the budget for People Services was increased by nearly £16.2 millions in recognition of the increase in demand faced by the caring services. The Council must ensure that it stays within the increased budget set for 2016/17 and that there is not a repeat in 2016/17 of the Children's Services overspending either in that service or any other service area

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REVENUE OUTTURN SUMMARY 2015/16

	Final Approved Budget (1) £'000	Spending (2) £'000	Variations (Under) / Over (3) £'000
1 People	336,131	315,693	(20,438)
2 Place	98,099	90,635	(7,464)
3 Corporate Services	37,042	35,929	(1,113)
4 Additional Pension Contributions	5,140	4,346	(794)
TOTAL FOR SERVICES	476,412	446,603	(29,809)
5 Budget Carry Forward Fund	(40,284)		40,284
NON-SERVICE ADJUSTMENTS			
6 Transformation Costs	0	5,846	5,846
7 Other	30	(1,071)	(1,101)
8 Capital Financing Charges	53,721	43,892	(9,829)
9 Capital Financing Charges - PFI	16,723	14,656	(2,067)
10 Investment Income on Balances	(939)	(1,214)	(275)
Levies and Contributions to Outside Bodies:			
11 Environment Agency	421	416	(5)
12 Devon Sea Fisheries	330	330	0
13 Infrastructure Development	582	332	(250)
14 Efficiency Support for Sparse Areas	169	0	(169)
15 Implementation of the Care Act	5,843	2,958	(2,885)
16 Independent Living Fund	59	0	(59)
17 Dartington School	2,000	905	(1,095)
18 New Burdens Resilience	1,000	0	(1,000)
19 Bellwin Scheme Related Emergencies	1,500	0	(1,500)
20 Special Education Needs & Disability	513	0	(513)
21 Insurance	1,409	1,407	(2)
22 Council Tax Support Partnership	350	106	(244)
23 Direct Revenue Support for Capital	2,259	1,927	(332)
24 Schools contribution to capital expenditure	(1,264)	(1,264)	0
25 Contributions to / (from) Earmarked Reserves	2,500	2,500	0
26 Local Service Support Grant	(673)	(673)	0
27 New Homes Bonus	(4,264)	(4,264)	0
28 New Homes Bonus Adjustment Grant	(308)	(305)	3
29 Care Act Implementation Grant	(5,843)	(5,843)	0
30 Small Business & Empty Property Rate Relief Grant	(1,588)	(1,673)	(85)
31 Business Rate Compensation Grant	(1,360)	(1,372)	(12)
32 Education Services Grant	(6,420)	(6,876)	(456)
33 Independent Living Fund Grant	(2,340)	(2,281)	59
34 Special Education Needs & Disability Grant	(433)	(433)	0
35 Devon Business Rates Pool	0	(391)	(391)
36 Other General Grants	0	(21)	(21)
Sub Total	500,105	494,197	(5,908)
37 Routine Spending from Earmarked Reserves	7,776	(765)	(8,541)
38 Routine Use of Earmarked Reserves	(7,776)		7,776
39 TOTAL	500,105	493,432	(6,673)

REVENUE OUTTURN SUMMARY 2015/16

Recommended Action						
Grant C/Fwd to 16/17 from 15/16 (4) £'000	Other C/Fwd to 16/17 from 15/16 (5) £'000	Take to / (from) Reserves (6) £'000	Recommended Outturn (7) £'000	(Increase)/ Decrease in Balances (8) £'000		
30,033	221		345,947	9,816	People	1
4,281	719		95,635	(2,464)	Place	2
0	322	(1,625)	34,626	(2,416)	Corporate Services	3
		600	4,946	(194)	Additional Pension Contributions	4
34,314	1,262	(1,025)	481,154	4,742	TOTAL FOR SERVICES	
(37,277)	(3,007)		(40,284)	0	Budget Carry Forward Fund	5
					NON-SERVICE ADJUSTMENTS	
		(5,846)	0	0	Transformation Costs	6
			(1,071)	(1,101)	Other	7
		9,829	53,721	0	Capital Financing Charges	8
		2,067	16,723	0	Capital Financing Charges - PFI	9
			(1,214)	(275)	Investment Income on Balances	10
					Levies and Contributions to Outside Bodies:	
			416	(5)	Environment Agency	11
			330	0	Devon Sea Fisheries	12
	250		582	0	Infrastructure Development	13
	89		89	(80)	Efficiency Support for Sparse Areas	14
	2,885		5,843	0	Implementation of the Care Act	15
			0	(59)	Independent Living Fund	16
	1,095		2,000	0	Dartington School	17
			0	(1,000)	New Burdens Resilience	18
			0	(1,500)	Bellwin Scheme Related Emergencies	19
	513		513	0	Special Education Needs & Disability	20
			1,407	(2)	Insurance	21
			106	(244)	Council Tax Support Partnership	22
	420	(87)	2,260	1	Direct Revenue Support for Capital	23
			(1,264)	0	Schools contribution to capital expenditure	24
			2,500	0	Contributions to / (from) Earmarked Reserves	25
			(673)	0	Local Service Support Grant	26
			(4,264)	0	New Homes Bonus	27
			(305)	3	New Homes Bonus Adjustment Grant	28
			(5,843)	0	Care Act Implementation Grant	29
			(1,673)	(85)	Small Business & Empty Property Rate Relief Grant	30
			(1,372)	(12)	Business Rate Compensation Grant	31
			(6,876)	(456)	Education Services Grant	32
			(2,281)	59	Independent Living Fund Grant	33
			(433)	0	Special Education Needs & Disability Grant	34
		391	0	0	Devon Business Rates Pool	35
			(21)	(21)	Other General Grants	36
(2,963)	3,507	5,329	500,070	(35)	Sub Total	
			(765)	(8,541)	Routine Spending from Earmarked Reserves	37
		765	765	8,541	Routine Use of Earmarked Reserves	38
(2,963)	3,507	6,094	500,070	(35)	TOTAL	39

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REVENUE OUTTURN 2015/16

WORKING BALANCES

	Balance 1st April 2015 (1)	Contrib'ns (2)	Spending (3)	Balance 31st March 2016 (4)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
1 Working Balances	14,601			
2 External Support for Revenue Spending		500,105		
3 Net Revenue Spending			(500,070)	
4 Total County Fund	14,601	500,105	(500,070)	14,636

EARMARKED RESERVES

	Balance 1st April 2015 (1)	Contrib'ns from Budget (2)	Contrib'ns from / (to) Outturn (3)	Spending (4)	Balance 31st March 2016 (5)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
1 Affordable Housing	426			(87)	339
2 Budget Management	11,530		12,496		24,026
3 Business Rates Risk Management	2,034		391		2,425
4 Public Health	2,117		(1,625)		492
5 Emergency	15,000				15,000
6 On Street Parking	3,982	765			4,747
7 Service Transformation	12,449	2,500		(5,846)	9,103
	47,538	3,265	11,262	(5,933)	56,132
8 Schools Carry Forward	20,931		23,163	(20,931)	23,163
9 Non Schools Carry Forward	19,353		17,665	(19,353)	17,665
	40,284	0	40,828	(40,284)	40,828
Total	87,822	3,265	52,090	(46,217)	96,960

REVENUE OUTTURN 2015/16

FUNDING REVENUE SPENDING

	£'000	£'000
1 Total revenue spending		500,070
2 Budget Variation added to balances		35
3 Budget level		<u>500,105</u>
4 Financed by:		
5 Revenue Support Grant	(86,621)	
6 Business Rates Retention Scheme - Local Element	(21,692)	
7 Business Rates Retention Scheme - Top Up	(71,514)	
8 Business Rates Collection Fund Deficit	982	
9 Council Tax - precepts on District Councils	(321,260)	
10 Total financing		<u>(500,105)</u>

PROVISIONS

	Provision B/ Forward	Changes in 2015/16	Provision Remaining 31st March 2016	Recommended Action Increase / (Decrease) in provision	Provision for 2015/16
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
1 Doubtful debts provision	699	436	1,135		1,135
2 Insurance	13,000	273	13,273		13,273
3 Out of date cheques	135	(16)	119	12	131
4 Social Care	333	(333)	0		0
5 Property Related	36	(36)	0		0
6 Waste Management	215		215		215
7 Structural redundancies	1,928	(1,916)	12	469	481
Total	<u>16,346</u>	<u>(1,592)</u>	<u>14,754</u>	<u>481</u>	<u>15,235</u>

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REVENUE OUTTURN 2015/16 – RECOMMENDED ACTION

PEOPLE

	Final Adjusted Budget (1) £'000	Unadjusted Spending (2) £'000	Grants c/fwds in 2016/17 (3) £'000	Variations (Under) / Over (4) £'000	Recommended Action Other c/fwds in 2016/17 (5) £'000	Final Outturn (Under) / Over (6) £'000
Childrens Social Work & Child Protection	67,458	81,044	302	13,888		13,888
Adult Social Care	181,166	179,330		(1,836)	221	(1,615)
Social Care Commissioning	13,388	10,144		(3,244)		(3,244)
Education & Learning - General Fund	43,198	43,380	605	787		787
Education & Learning - Dedicated Schools Grant	30,921	1,795	29,126	0		0
Revenue Outturn	336,131	315,693	30,033	9,595	221	9,816
<u>VARIATIONS BETWEEN BUDGET AND SPEND</u>					£'000	£'000
<u>Childrens Social Work & Child Protection</u>						
Children with disabilities - reduced costs for block contract arrangements					(199)	
Higher number of looked after children / post 18 placements than anticipated and adverse mix of placements					11,399	
Early Help - favourable effects of payment by results & proceeding to phase 2 of Troubled Families programme					(1,237)	
Staffing - social work numbers employed higher than budget and differential costs for temporary workers					3,250	
Legal disbursements - higher number processed than budgeted levels and higher average cost					373	
Revenue grants and contribution carried forward					302	13,888
<u>Adult Social Care</u>						
Older People/Physical Disability - delayed increased costs for commissioning care					(3,307)	
Learning Disability - net increases in commissioning care packages (including autistic spectrum conditions)					3,875	
Mental Health - overspend in commissioning cost					1,487	
Share of Better Care Fund underspend					(1,419)	
Older People/Physical Disability - reduced staffing and reprovion costs from closures of residential homes					(1,444)	
Older People/Physical Disability - savings in reablement					(397)	
Safeguarding Adults - savings in staffing costs and one-off benefit (Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards grant)					(586)	
Workforce Development - savings in specialist training costs					(45)	(1,836)
<u>Social Care Commissioning</u>						
Savings on targeted support contracts achieved early					(2,680)	
Other commissioning activity non recurrent savings made in year					(564)	(3,244)
<u>Education and Learning - General Fund</u>						
Early Help and Behaviour Support - review and redirection to Dedicated Schools Grant					(146)	
Lower Legal costs and staff vacancies and reorganisation across central teams					(477)	
Cost reduction in various external contracts					(68)	
School Transport - increased contractor costs and reduction in income					1,136	
Personalised Transport - increased costs / number of children with Special Educational Needs requiring transport					765	
Special School Multi -Agency Workers review and redirection to Dedicated Schools Grant					(319)	
Maintenance, Mutual Fund and Education grants - unspent balances					(618)	
Other Savings					(91)	
Revenue grants and contribution carried forward					605	787
<u>Education and Learning - Dedicated Schools Grant and Schools Funding</u>						
Schools' delegated budgets					(23,200)	
Schools' de-delegated budgets and centrally retained services for schools					(1,478)	
Pupil Growth Fund - defined strategy to take account of new schools and demographic changes					(2,188)	
Early education for 2, 3 & 4 year olds - take up of provision and planned carry forward of funding					(1,507)	
High Needs - Balance of brought forward funding offset by increased demand and cost for SEN placements					(753)	
Revenue grants and contribution carried forward					29,126	0
						9,595
<u>CARRY FORWARD PROPOSALS</u>						
<u>Adult Social Care</u>						
Partnership arrangements with health partners - Rapid Response						221
						221
<u>CONTRIBUTION (TO) / FROM OUTTURN</u>						
						9,816

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REVENUE OUTTURN 2015/16 – RECOMMENDED ACTION

PLACE

	Final Adjusted Budget (1) £'000	Unadjusted Spending (2) £'000	Grants c/fwds in 2016/17 (3) £'000	Variations (Under) / Over (4) £'000	Recommended Action Other c/fwds in 2016/17 (5) £'000	Final Outturn (Under)/ Over (6) £'000
Highways and Traffic Management	34,251	33,232	196	(823)	0	(823)
Planning, Transportation & Environment	6,235	3,743	1,355	(1,137)	120	(1,017)
Capital Development and Waste Management	24,977	24,501	49	(427)	0	(427)
Economy & Enterprise	2,135	1,406	414	(315)	233	(82)
Services for Communities	30,501	27,753	2,267	(481)	366	(115)
Revenue Outturn	98,099	90,635	4,281	(3,183)	719	(2,464)
<u>VARIATIONS BETWEEN BUDGET AND SPEND</u>					£'000	£'000
<u>Highways and Traffic Management</u>						
Reduced spend due to mild winter with no significant storms					(1,242)	
Increased planned and routine works					336	
Overspend on grass cutting during implementation of new regime					300	
Street lighting - Reduced energy and maintenance costs					(334)	
Reduced income and increased legal costs partly offset by reduced staffing and fleet costs					(79)	
Revenue grants and contributions carried forward					196	(823)
<u>Planning, Transportation & Environment</u>						
Increased flood defence spend, new income streams and write back of provision					(127)	
Increased activity resulting in more inspection, section 106 and planning fees					(1,429)	
Increased income, reduced staffing and project spend					(888)	
Delayed DCC match spend on environment partnerships					(48)	
Revenue grants and contributions carried forward					1,355	(1,137)
<u>Capital Development and Waste Management</u>						
EDG - Project slippage and Increased income due to lower non productive time					(281)	
Waste disposal - Increased tonnage cost compared to original budget					2,143	
Energy from Waste plants - Savings from first year of operation					(1,908)	
Waste recycling contract variations (tonnage and new contracts) net of recycling credits					231	
Waste - Reduced other costs to offset increased disposal and recycling costs					(661)	
Revenue grants and contributions carried forward					49	(427)
<u>Economy & Enterprise</u>						
Community Impact Budget - Delayed due to complex grant procurement exercise					(458)	
Project variations and additional income					(271)	
Revenue grants and contributions carried forward					414	(315)
<u>Services For Communities</u>						
Libraries - Resource shortage to achieve 15/6 savings targets					307	
Bus support costs to On Street Parking and reduced planned operational spend					(363)	
Transport grant and dowry spend					(993)	
Delayed spend on locality and TAP budgets					(366)	
Delayed project spend					(51)	
Trading standards - Reduced spend on salaries and premises					(96)	
Active Devon and Learn Devon - mainly academic year splits for funding					(1,186)	
Revenue grants and contributions carried forward					2,267	(481)
						(3,183)
<u>CARRY FORWARD PROPOSALS</u>						
DCC match funding for partnership agreements						33
County Hall travel plans - Extended remit						87
Community impact budget - Delayed procurement						233
Town and Parish Funds - Devon Remembers and North Devon Records Office project						31
Locality budgets						335
						719
<u>CONTRIBUTION (TO) /FROM OUTTURN</u>						(2,464)

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REVENUE OUTTURN 2015/16 – RECOMMENDED ACTION

CORPORATE SERVICES

	Final Adjusted Budget (1) £'000	Unadjusted Spending (2) £'000	Grants c/fwds in 2016/17 (3) £'000	Variations (Under) / Over (4) £'000	Recommended Action Other c/fwds in 2016/17 (5) £'000	Final Outturn (Under) / Over (6) £'000
Business Strategy & Support						
Procurement	1,268	1,284	0	16	0	16
Estates	3,091	3,009	0	(82)	190	108
County Farms	(337)	(326)	0	11	0	11
Business Infrastructures	9,192	8,928	0	(264)	0	(264)
Private Finance Initiative	(6,888)	(7,338)	0	(450)	132	(318)
Customer Services	1,470	1,412	0	(58)	0	(58)
ICT	8,080	7,936	0	(144)	0	(144)
	<u>15,876</u>	<u>14,905</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(971)</u>	<u>322</u>	<u>(649)</u>
County Solicitor						
Legal Services	946	981	0	35	0	35
Communications	1,101	1,071	0	(30)	0	(30)
Coroners Service	1,699	1,277	0	(422)	0	(422)
Registration Service	(357)	(635)	0	(278)	0	(278)
Other Services	2,114	2,030	0	(84)	0	(84)
	<u>5,503</u>	<u>4,724</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(779)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(779)</u>
Human Resources	<u>2,960</u>	<u>2,614</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(346)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(346)</u>
County Treasurer	<u>12,556</u>	<u>11,914</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(642)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(642)</u>
Public Health	<u>147</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Revenue Outturn	<u>37,042</u>	<u>34,304</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(2,738)</u>	<u>322</u>	<u>(2,416)</u>

VARIATIONS BETWEEN BUDGET AND SPEND

	£'000	£'000
<u>Business Strategy & Support</u>		
Procurement - minor variations	16	
Estates - savings in corporate maintenance, pending one-off costs in respect of The Mansion Trust transfer	(82)	
County Farms - reduction in rental income (arrears offset by reduction in Capital compensation payments)	11	
Business Infrastructure (Premises) - increased income, and reduced costs of utilities, rates, running costs	(264)	
Private Finance Initiative - one-off funds in respect of facilities	(450)	
Customer Services - net savings arising from delayed implementation of IT system	(58)	
ICT - net savings in contracts, staffing, delayed corporate infrastructure projects and increased income	<u>(144)</u>	<u>(971)</u>
<u>County Solicitor</u>		
Legal Services - increased legal costs in respect of Children's safeguarding	35	
Media, Marketing & Communications - vacancy savings	(30)	
Coroners Service - delayed legislation (Medical Examiner), savings in SLA's and body removal expenses	(422)	
Registration Service - increased income, reduced fees and staff vacancy savings	(278)	
Other Services - savings in respect of Cost of Democracy, and reduced cost of licences	<u>(84)</u>	<u>(779)</u>
<u>Human Resources</u>		
Net savings in staffing (vacancies), Psychometric testing, training and additional income	<u>(346)</u>	<u>(346)</u>
<u>County Treasurer</u>		
Finance Services - net savings in staffing (vacancies), additional income and reduced overheads	(214)	
Other Services - net savings in bank charges	(33)	
Net savings in Authority-wide unfunded pensions	<u>(395)</u>	<u>(642)</u>
<u>Public Health</u>		
Savings in NHS Health Check programme, offset by increased costs for Sexual Health and Public Mental Health	0	
Net reduction in grant income (£1.645m) offset by funding from ring-fenced reserve.	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>(2,738)</u>

CARRY FORWARD PROPOSALS

<u>Business Strategy & Support</u>		
Transfer of Trust premises to Community Group (The Mansion, Totnes)		190
Private Finance Initiative - commitment in respect of facilities		132
		<u>322</u>

CONTRIBUTION (TO)/FROM OUTTURN

(2,416)

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS 2015/16

	Original Budget £000	2014/15 Brought Forward £000	Virements £000	Final Budget £000
People	297,379	33,466	5,286	336,131
Place	101,171	4,701	(7,773)	98,099
Corporate Services	39,141	642	(2,741)	37,042
Pension Contribution Shortfall	5,140			5,140
Total Service budgets	442,831	38,809	(5,228)	476,412
Budget Carry Forward Fund		(40,284)		(40,284)
Capital Financing	53,591		130	53,721
Capital Financing PFI	7,424		9,299	16,723
Interest on Balances	(939)			(939)
Infrastructure Development	0	582		582
Efficiency Support for Sparse Areas	0	169		169
Other	0	73	(43)	30
Implementation of the Care Act	5,843			5,843
Independent Living Fund	2,340		(2,281)	59
Child Sexual Exploitation Review	120		(120)	0
Dartington School	2,000			2,000
New Burden's Resilience	3,000		(2,000)	1,000
Bellwin Scheme Related Emergencies	1,500			1,500
Local Welfare Assistance	1,000		(1,000)	0
Road Gritting	100		(100)	0
Public Transport	100		(100)	0
Crossing Patrols	100		(100)	0
Citizen Advice Bureaux	40		(40)	0
Council Tax Support Partnership	350			350
Adoption Reform and Special Education Needs	433	401	(321)	513
Insurance	0		1,409	1,409
Insurance Receipt for Capital Works	0			0
Direct Revenue Support for Capital	0		1,759	1,759
Spending from Reserves	7,776			7,776
Use of Reserves	(7,776)			(7,776)
Contribution to Transformation Reserve	2,500			2,500
Transfer from Budget Management Reserve	0			0
Precepts				
Flood Defence	421			421
Inshore Fisheries	330			330
Non-committee budgets	80,253	(39,059)	6,492	47,686
Direct Support for Capital - Flood Defence	250	250		500
School contribution to capital expenditure	0		(1,264)	(1,264)
	523,334	0	0	523,334
Local Service Support Grant	(673)			(673)
New Homes Bonus	(4,264)			(4,264)
New Homes Bonus Adjustment Grant	(308)			(308)
Care Act Implementation Grant	(5,843)			(5,843)
Small Business & Empty Property Rate Relief Grant	(1,588)			(1,588)
Business Rate Cap Compensation Grant	(1,360)			(1,360)
Education Services Grant	(6,420)			(6,420)
Independent Living Fund Grant	(2,340)			(2,340)
Adoption Reform & Special Educational Needs Grant	(433)			(433)
TOTAL	500,105	0	0	500,105

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ALLOWANCES PAID TO DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLORS UNDER THE MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2016

Note: Basic & Special Responsibility Allowances and some elements of travelling and subsistence allowances are subject to taxation

Surname	Inits	Basic Allowance £	Special Responsibility Allowance £	Mileage and Subsistence Expenses £
Ball	K	10,970.04	0.00	628.28
Barisic*	E	10,970.04	0.00	225.87
Barker	SD	10,970.04	16,455.00	2,925.55
Berry	EJ	10,970.04	0.00	579.15
Biederman	F	10,970.04	239.94	1,916.37
Bowden	P	10,970.04	2,742.96	493.69
Boyd	A	10,970.04	0.00	1,612.35
Brazil	JC	10,970.04	8,000.04	1,964.85
Brook	FJ	10,970.04	5,484.96	0.00
Channon	C	10,970.04	10,349.62	308.46
Chugg	C	10,970.04	2,418.52	1,172.49
Clarance	C	10,970.04	0.00	681.25
Clatworthy	J	9,999.96	20,000.04	1,681.78
Colthorpe	P	10,970.04	3,999.96	0.00
Connett	AM	10,970.04	5,484.96	0.00
Croad	RF	10,970.04	16,455.00	3,842.72
Davis	AV	10,970.04	16,455.00	3,719.84
Dempster	A	10,970.04	0.00	0.00
Dewhurst	A	10,970.04	0.00	1,278.29
Dezart	G	10,970.04	0.00	70.72
Diviani	PA	10,970.04	0.00	595.80
Eastman	AJ	10,970.04	0.00	596.75
Edgell	RC	10,970.04	2,742.96	2,351.04
Edmunds	M	10,970.04	0.00	1,335.99
Foggin	OM	10,970.04	0.00	0.00
Gilbert	R	10,970.04	2,742.96	1,858.73
Greenslade	BC	10,970.04	0.00	1,729.60
Gribble	G	10,970.04	1,393.30	1,664.40
Hannaford	R	10,970.04	3,999.96	0.00
Hannan	A	10,970.04	0.00	51.93
Hannon	DPO	10,970.04	0.00	0.00
Hart	TJ	9,999.96	24,999.96	2,501.93
Hawkins	JD	10,970.04	0.00	1,224.47
Hill	R	10,970.04	0.00	89.46
Hone	J	10,970.04	0.00	0.00
Hook	GN	10,970.04	3,999.96	348.30
Hosking	RW	10,970.04	0.00	2,013.28
Hughes	BCJ	10,970.04	0.00	0.00
Hughes	S	10,970.04	16,455.00	4,868.61
Julian	J	10,970.04	2,742.96	5,750.91
Knight	J	10,970.04	2,779.86	1,644.03
Leadbetter	AR	10,970.04	16,455.00	7,171.82
Matthews	J	10,970.04	2,693.62	1,222.18
McInnes	JR	10,970.04	16,455.00	3,816.72
Morse	E	10,970.04	0.00	0.00
Moulding	AT	10,970.04	8,000.04	1,316.93
Owen	J	10,970.04	0.00	32.40
Parsons	BM	10,970.04	16,455.00	5,380.00
Prowse	GJ	10,970.04	0.00	0.00
Radford	RA	10,970.04	0.00	1,059.86
Randall Johnson	S	10,970.04	8,000.04	681.65
Rowe	R	10,970.04	0.00	928.96
Sanders	PR	10,970.04	2,742.96	1,499.50
Sellis	D	10,970.04	3,999.96	942.61
Squires	M	10,970.04	0.00	620.98
Vint	R	10,970.04	0.00	0.00
Way	NA	10,970.04	0.00	0.00
Westlake	RA	10,970.04	8,000.04	0.00
Wragg	EE	10,970.04	0.00	539.31
Wright	C	10,970.04	0.00	328.95
Yabsley	JO	10,970.04	331.81	250.00
Younger-Ross	R	10,970.04	0.00	167.60

* In addition a Carers Allowance of £251.34 was paid.

CAPITAL

6. The Capital Programme

- 6.1 The County Council approved the Capital Programme of £120.206 million for 2015/16 in February 2015. The programme was increased during the financial year by £38.353 million as a result of the previous year underspends and Members have been asked to approve a further £16.712 million for other adjustments during the year.
- 6.2 The final capital programme for 2015/16 was £175.271 million and actual capital expenditure was £128.459 million. The table below summarises 2015/16 expenditure and approvals.

	Budget £ 000's	Actual Spend £ 000's	Variation £ 000's
Place	146,235	110,446	35,789
People	20,719	14,588	6,131
Corporate	8,317	3,425	4,892
Total	175,271	128,459	46,812

7. Capital Outturn

- 7.1 The County Council delivered a large programme of capital investment in 2015/16. There were a number of significant schemes completed during the year which included the completion of the South Devon Link Road, two new rail stations at Newcourt and Cranbrook and a number of school expansion schemes.
- 7.2 As set out in the table above, the Capital Programme underspent by £46.8 million at outturn (this compares to £47.3 million in 2014/15). Within this total £43.0 million represents slippage across a range of schemes which will be carried forward to future years and £3.8 million savings achieved in programme delivery.
- 7.3 Section 3 below shows where services want to carry forward their slippage and explains the variances between budget and spend.

8. Variation between the delivered Capital Programme and Budget

- 8.1 The 2015/16 net underspending totalled £46.812 million. It is recommended that £39.183 millions are carried forward into the 2016/17 Capital Programme, and £3.803 millions into 2017/18 and beyond. An analysis of the underspending and the carry forward request is set out in the table below:-

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	Variation	Carry Forward to 2016/17	Carry Forward to 2017/18 and future years
	£ 000's	£ 000's	£ 000's
Place	35,789	29,108	2,958
People	6,131	5,210	845
Corporate	4,892	4,865	0
Total	46,812	39,183	3,803

8.2 The main reasons for the variation between spend and budgets are explained in the following paragraphs.

8.3 Place

In 2015/16 the variation between budget and spend is split between slippage of £32.066m and underspend of £3.723m.

Planning, Transportation and Environment (PT&E)

The PT&E capital programme included a number of large schemes and a summary of some of the main areas of slippage and variations are outlined below

The South Devon Link Road slippage was due in part to a land negotiation achieving a lower cost than expected. There are however a number of outstanding contractor claims which may affect the final outturn..

The Bridge Road and Marsh Barton rail schemes started on site later than planned primarily due to a combination of land complications and negotiations with Network rail

Land negotiations primarily outside the County Council's control have resulted in slippage on a number of strategic cycling schemes

Tithebarn Lane Phase 2 and other Growth Deal 1 schemes including the cycle schemes have been delayed starting on site due to a combination of external funding, design issues and land negotiations

The significant underspend on Cranbrook rail station is primarily due to successful negotiations with Network Rail to reduce DCC's share of increases in the scheme's delivery cost.

Highways, Capital Development and Waste Management (H,CD&WM)

The Local Transport Plan (LTP) Maintenance block grant funding of £46m was over delivered in 2015/16 by £2m. This over delivery was offset by slippage in other areas of the Place capital programme. The LTP will be the first call on this over delivery in 2016/17 ensuring expenditure remains within the overall allocation..

The Ivybridge Recycling Centre scheme was delayed through the tendering process. A successful tender and award was completed and the works commenced in February 2016, resulting in slippage of £2.7m.

Economy and Enterprise

The Okehampton East Business Park development was substantially completed in 2015/16 and whilst costs have not been finalised there is an anticipated saving on this scheme. The saving will be used to support the project costs of development of the Roundswell Strategic Employment Site, Barnstaple.

The implementation of superfast broadband by BT has reached over 170,000 users despite earlier delivery problems during 2014/15. There is slippage of £8.7m into 2016/17 primarily due to the delivery programme by BT.

8.4 People

Social Care Commissioning

There was slippage of £1.0 million within the Better Care Fund. Plans are being reviewed with health partners to determine how these resources will be allocated in 2016/17. There is also slippage within the Grants to Independent Sector - Care Homes scheme of £1.0 million. The County Council is actively seeking partners to develop additional care provision in 2016/17.

Schools

Schools projects have broadly been delivered on time, however there are some smaller schemes which have experienced slippage.

8.5 Corporate

County Farms

The current level of slippage is primarily due to a small number of Nitrate Vulnerable Zone compliant schemes where tenders have been let later than planned and the works will commence in 2016/17. The total scheme slippage within County Farms of £0.771 million will be carried forward into 2016/17.

Estates

Work at the Barnstaple Civic Centre annexe to facilitate the relocation of staff commenced in 2015/16. The project is expected to be completed in August 2016 resulting in slippage within this scheme..

The refurbishment of Lucombe House at County Hall due to be undertaken in 2015/16 has been delayed to facilitate a wider review of other accommodation requirements.

The upgrade of the boiler house and ventilation system at County Hall has required detailed discussions with English Heritage to finalise an acceptable design solution. This has resulted in the project being delayed until 2016/17.

ICT

The variation between the delivered capital programme and budget of £1.1m was largely due to delays in confirming service requirements and wider operational issues relating to the rollout of Windows 10 (which includes the replacement of out of date desktop computers with laptops/tablets) and the modernising of meeting rooms at DCC's key strategic centres.

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9. Financing the Capital Programme

- 9.1 The table below sets out how the Council planned to finance its capital spending and the actual sources of funding that were used. The third column shows the funding that will be carried forward into later years, with the final column showing savings from the funding source.

	2015/16 Final Budget	2015/16 Final Outturn	Capital Budgets Carried Forward	2015/16 Capital Budget Savings
	£ 000's	£ 000's	£ 000's	£ 000's
Capital Receipts Applied	26,831	10,960	15,683	188
Borrowing	31,340	16,073	14,373	894
External Grants and Contributions	114,530	99,167	12,632	2,731
Revenue Budgets	2,570	2,259	298	13
Total	175,271	128,459	42,986	3,826

- 9.2 The total borrowing required to finance the capital programme in 2015/16 was £16.073m million. The council was able to meet all borrowing requirements from internal cash resources so did not need to increase external borrowing

- 9.3 The Council had Capital Receipts unapplied of £25.848 million at 1st April 2015. Net of the cost of sales, capital receipts of £6.410 million were received in year from the sale of County land, building and other assets. Having applied £10.960 million of capital receipts to finance spend, the closing balance for Capital Receipts is £21.298 million. These movements are shown in the table below:

	General Receipts	Investing in Devon	Total
	£ 000's	£ 000's	£ 000's
Opening Balance 1st April 2015	13,928	11,920	25,848
Received in year	6,410	0	6,410
Applied to finance spend	(8,559)	(2,401)	(10,960)
Closing Balance 31st March 2016	11,779	9,519	21,298

10. Major Capital Investment

10.1 Place

Planning, Transportation and Environment – £46 million outturn spend

There continues to be significant investment into the infrastructure of the County during 2015/16 with further major works planned for 2016/17. A summary of the main schemes are set out below:

The South Devon Link Road was completed in December 2015 and is already making a significant difference to journey times to and from Torbay and South Devon.

The Decoy Industrial Estate Access Road, including a parallel cycle link and connecting to the A380 at Aller, was also completed earlier in the financial year.

Major transport improvements on the M5 at Junction 28 (Cullompton), Drumbridges (A38) and Turks Head (Honiton / A30) were completed in partnership with Highways England.

Two new rail stations at Newcourt and Cranbrook were delivered in partnership with the rail industry.

The Stover Way multi-use trail between Newton Abbot and Bovey Tracey was also completed early in the financial year.

The Jurassic Coast visitor centre at Seaton, a partnership project with East Devon District Council and other funding bodies was opened late in the financial year.

Further capital investment has also been made in preparing schemes including, the A30/A303 (Honiton to Somerset border), North Devon Link Road (M5 – Bideford), Tiverton EUE access, A382 and Houghton Barton link (Newton Abbot), Deep Lane Phase 2 (Sherford), Bere Alston – Tavistock rail link and future schemes to be potentially funded through round three of Growth Deal.

Other major schemes that have commenced in 2015/16 include Bridge Road Widening improvements (Exeter), the Exeter Flood Alleviation scheme (delivered by the Environment Agency), the Exe Estuary cycle route between Dawlish Warren and Dawlish and the countywide bus real time information system. Services for the Community.

Highways Capital development and Waste Management - £60 million outturn

The Local Transport Plan (LTP) Maintenance block grant funding has delivered over 750 highway schemes and targeted priority carriageway schemes including surface dressing treatments and preparatory patching works. A significant number of bridge schemes were also funded from LTP including the Teign Estuary Viaduct.

£1.5 million has been invested in street lighting columns and lanterns in Barnstaple as part of a successful application to the Department for Transport funded Challenge Fund project.

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Schools capital maintenance investment totalled £8.8 million with 275 projects competed during the year.

Economy and Enterprise

Okehampton East Business Park was substantially completed in November and although surfacing and landscaping works are still to be carried out, the majority of the plots are under offer.

10.2 People

Better Care Fund (BCF)

The Disabled Facilities Grant component of the BCF (£3.4m) was entirely transferred to the District Authorities. A capital allocation of £0.9m was spent on Community Equipment as a joint partnership with Health partners.

Other schemes included:

- The Extra Care Housing programme saw significant expenditure of £1.6m contributing to developments in Newton Abbot and Totnes.
- A £1.3m investment was made to an improved IT system for use by our partners Virgin Care.
- The Transforming Care programme spent £0.6m of grants towards re-housing people with autism and other challenging behaviours away from traditional health care settings.
- Contributions were also made towards the Exeter Engagement and Wellbeing Hub and towards a scheme to support people with autism led by our partners in Devon and Cornwall Police.

Education and Learning - Schools

Individual schools have continued to make large investment to their estate with several large expansion and improvement projects at Southbrook School, Lampard Community School and Bratton Fleming Community Primary School. There has also been continued investment in the playground facilities at Axe Valley Community College, Instow Community Primary, West Alvington Church of England Primary School and Landscore Primary.

Children's Social Work and Child Protection

Atkinson Unit

This year has seen the Education Funding Agency fund a number of major improvements to the unit including, a new life skills room, upgraded play area, and high dependency unit as well as other minor projects such as refurbishments to the medical room, security improvements, and new windows and doors.

10.3 Corporate Services

Estates

Aligned to the authority's Estates Strategy, during 2015/16 a number of key enabling projects have been undertaken to facilitate the release of buildings and to deliver the capital receipts target. Work has also commenced on key Strategic

Centre projects with the remainder of the work anticipated to be completed in 2016/17.

ICT

Capital schemes have focussed around key ICT objectives including the upgrade of DCC's infrastructure to provide a fit for purpose, up to date and reliable day to day ICT service that also includes significant increases in storage capacity.

Development and implementation of a pilot of the Windows 10 infrastructure and associated end user devices within Adult Social Care Commissioning was completed which will enable a wider roll out in 2016/17 to other services.

A major upgrade to the main meeting rooms within our strategic centres is well underway with modern ICT facilities available such as Skype for Business.

11.Prudential Indicators

The prudential indicators are produced in line with the national code of practice that was drawn up by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. This requires local authorities to monitor its overall debt level via a set of "prudential indicators", in order to form a judgement about affordable, prudent and sustainable levels of debt. The definition of debt for the Prudential Indicators that were calculated and agreed within the Capital Programme for 2015/16 includes both borrowing and other long term liabilities such as PFI schemes.

The indicators are set annually when the budget is agreed and we report the final position of the indicators against the estimate within the outturn report. The indicators are adjusted after the budget is agreed for technical accounting changes. In 2015/16 no prudential indicators were breached.

11.1 Capital Expenditure

The Prudential Indicators 2015/16 are based on the revised Capital Programme of £175.271 million.

Planned Expenditure	£175.271 million
Actual Expenditure	£128.459 million
Variance	£ 46.812 million

11.2 Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)

The Capital Financing Requirement reflects the cumulative capital expenditure that Devon County Council has yet to finance. It is alternatively known as the underlying debt requirement.

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	Million	Million
Closing Capital Financing Requirement 2014/15		£710.969
Adjustment to Opening Position for Capital Provision		£6.301
Increase in Long Term Liability – Plymouth Energy from Waste		£25.911
Capital Investment	£ 128.459	
Less: Capital Receipt	(£10.960)	
Less: Government Grants and Contributions	(£99.167)	
Less: Revenue Financing and Reserves	(£2.259)	
Capital Investment Funded through Borrowing		£16.073
Less: Revenue Funded Borrowing Reduction	(£18.128)	
Less: Revenue Funded Liability Reductions	(£3.601)	
Less: External Contributions to Repayment of Debt	(£0.365)	
		(£22.094)
Less: Capital spend yet to take place		(£6.026)
Closing Capital Financing Requirement 2015/16		£731.134

Planned CFR (31st March 2016)	£ 737.239 million
Actual CFR (31st March 2016)	£ 731.134 million
Variance	£ 6.105 million

The underlying debt requirement is lower than anticipated due to slippage in the Capital Programme.

11.3 Authorised Limit and the Operational Boundary for External Debt

External borrowing totals £507.850 million and other Long Term Liabilities total £114.770 million. The actual external debt for 2014/15 was therefore £612.620 million.

The authorised limit for external debt of £744.310 million was not breached.

The operational boundary for external debt of £719.310 million was not breached.

11.4 Ratio of Financing Cost to Net Revenue Stream

This key ratio shows the percentage of the net revenue budget which is used to finance debt. The long term commitment is that the capital finance charges excluding the capital financing costs included within the PFI and other PFI type of arrangements do not go above 12%. On an annual basis, the County Council when assessing the affordability of the programme estimate the relevant percentage.

	<u>Including PFI Charges</u>	<u>Excluding PFI Charges</u>
Total Financing Costs	£ 58.548 million	£ 43.892 million
Net Revenue Stream	£500.105 million	£500.105 million
Actual	11.7%	8.8%
Estimated	14.0%	10.8%
Variance	2.3%	2.0%

12.Determination of Capital Finance

The Authority is required to determine its use of capital finance as defined by capital control legislation. The following use of capital finance sources, as outlined in the table shown on page 20 and compared to budget, is proposed:

- That internal borrowing totalling £16.073 million is used as authorisation to finance capital expenditure.
- That expenditure of £99.167 million is funded from government grants and external contributions to meet expenditure in 2015/16 for capital purposes.
- That useable capital receipts of £10.960 million are applied to meet expenditure in 2015/16 for capital purposes.
- That remaining capital expenditure of £2.259 million is met from revenue budgets

CAPITAL OUTTURN SUMMARY STATEMENT 2015/16

	Revised Programme	Total Spending	Slippage and Other Variations	<i>Impact on 2016/17 Programme Increase / (Decrease)</i>	<i>Impact on 2017/18 Programme Increase / (Decrease)</i>	<i>Impact on 2018/19 Programme Increase / (Decrease)</i>	<i>Impact on 2019/20 Programme Increase / (Decrease)</i>	<i>Impact on 2020/21 Programme Increase / (Decrease)</i>
	(1) £'000	(2) £'000	(3) £'000	(4) £'000	(5) £'000	(6) £'000	(7) £'000	(8) £'000
CORE PROGRAMME								
Place	146,235	110,446	35,789	29,108	2,958	0	0	0
People	20,719	14,588	6,131	5,210	845	0	0	0
Corporate	8,317	3,425	4,892	4,865	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	175,271	128,459	46,812	39,183	3,803	0	0	0
TOTAL TO BE FINANCED		<u>128,459</u>						

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015/16 – STATEMENT OF DETERMINATION OF CAPITAL FINANCE

	Recommended Financing £000	Recommended Financing £000
SOURCES OF FINANCE		
External Resources		
Grants and Contributions	99,167	
Total External Sources		99,167
Internal Resources		
Useable Capital Receipts Applied	10,960	
Internal Borrowing	16,073	
Revenue Budgets and Earmarked Reserves	2,259	
	29,292	
Total Internal Sources		29,292
Total Sources of Funding		128,459

Capital Receipts	
Balance at Start of Year	25,848
Received During Year	6,410
Applied to Financing	(10,960)
Balance at Year End	21,298

Note

Analysis of balance of capital receipts at year end

Airport Receipts earmarked for IID	9,519
General Receipts	11,779
	21,298

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13.DEBT (Monies Owed to the Authority) as at 31st March 2016

- 13.1 The County Council collects income from a wide range of sources to fund its services. Large elements of income are received automatically from Government and District Councils in respect of Revenue Support Grant, share of National Non-Domestic Rates and Council Tax.
- 13.2 Technology is also used to receive income via the telephone and the internet. Debt recovery agents continue to be used where non-sensitive debt has proved difficult to collect.
- 13.3 Income is also received from the raising of invoices to users of service. Accounts are credited with the income value with immediate effect, however, it is often the case that debtors take time to settle accounts and there is a time delay between accounting transactions and cash income.
- 13.4 The County Council has a number of debtor systems which encompass Adult Care functions, Devon Pensions Fund items and Corporate services.
- 13.5 As at 31st March 2016, the situation was as follows :-

	Corporate System	Adult Care Functions	Devon Pension Fund	Total
Total Invoiced Income for the Year	£176.975 million (£108.302 million at 31st March 2015)	£42.694 million (£40.402 million at 31st March 2015)	£7.846 million (£9.361 million at 31st March 2015)	£227.515 million (£158.065 million at 31st March 2015)
Outstanding debt older than 3 months	£2.486 million (£3.672 million at 31st March 2015)	£10.527 million (£8.890 million at 31st March 2015)	£0.064 million (£0.121 million at 31st March 2015)	£13.077 million (£12.683 million at 31st March 2015)
Percentage of Debt which is older than 3 months relative to whole year value	1.4% (3.4% at 31st March 2015)	24.7% (22.0% at 31st March 2015)	0.82% (1.29% at 31st March 2015)	5.75% (8.0% at 31st March 2015)

- 13.6 In terms of Corporate debt, active management of items throughout the year and recovery of a number of large value debts has produced significant reductions compared to outstanding balances at the end of 2014/15 financial year.
- 13.7 Within the Adult Care Functions, elements of Residential Care debt are underwritten by property charges. At the year end, these total £8,027,845 (£6,980,802 at 31st March 2015) and reduce the percentage of outstanding debt to 5.9% (4.7% at 31st March 2015).

- 13.8 An On-Street Parking system records monies owed for this service area. The nature of the individual debt is low value. At the year-end, gross debt totalled £593,303, with a bad debt provision of £444,977. The net debt was £148,326. Enforcement agents are used to recover related debt only where all other approaches have failed. The use of enforcement agents are closely monitored by DCC Officers to ensure the impact is fully considered.
- 13.9 Invoiced income in respect of Devon Pension Fund is comparatively low in percentage terms and relates to a small number of debtors.
- 13.10 In addition, to mitigate the effect of non-recovery of debt, Provisions have been established to write-off corporate items which prove non-recoverable. At the year end, these total £200,000.

Mary Davis

Electoral Divisions: All

Local Government Act 2003

Contact for Revenue Enquiries: Angie Sinclair Tel No: 01392 380711

Mary Davis Tel No: 01392 383310

Contact for Capital Enquiries: Paul Looby Tel No: 01392 383457

Background Paper Date File Ref

Detailed financial working papers

Executive Member: Councillor John Clatworthy

PTE/16/27

Cabinet
8 June 2016

Exeter Cycle Strategy

Report of the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Cabinet (and confirmation under the provisions of the Council's Constitution) before taking effect.

Recommendations: that:

- (a) Cabinet adopt the principle of a strategic cycle network for Exeter in accordance with Appendix I;**
- (b) work should continue with the development of the Exeter Cycle Network, giving priority to E3 and E4 cycle routes in the following manner;**
 - (i) undertake ongoing consultation,**
 - (ii) submit planning applications as appropriate; progress to detailed design; commence land acquisition and tender the individual elements of the proposed cycle routes, and**
 - (iii) delegation be given to the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment, in consultation with relevant Cabinet Members and Local Members, to approve any changes to the proposed cycle routes;**
- (c) final scheme and estimate be submitted to Cabinet for approval prior to commencement of construction.**

1. Summary

This report seeks approval to adopt the principle of a Strategic Cycle network for Exeter in order to progress the Cycling and Multi-Use Trail Network Strategy. The report seeks authorisation for continued consultation, and to progress detailed design, land acquisition and to seek tender prices for the proposed routes. It proposes priority be given to routes E3 and E4.

2. Background/Introduction

Exeter is building a good reputation for cycling. Cycling is increasingly seen as an attractive leisure activity and a viable alternative to car travel. The 2011 census data showed Exeter as having almost double the average proportion of people walking and cycling to work, 6%. Improvements in cycling infrastructure in the city will help to enhance this existing trend, allow better access to the city centre for retail, improved access to education, and encourage more leisure trips.

A network of proposed cycle routes was put forward by Devon County Council in its 2015 Cycling and Multi-Use Network Strategy. This Report moves it forward and provides further detail on the Exeter Cycle Strategy (see Appendix I). The Strategy consists of a series of higher quality routes radiating out from the city centre and connecting to orbital routes on the eastern edge of the city.

It is proposed that priority is given to the development of two of these routes – the E3 route between Redhayes Bridge and the city centre and the E4 route between Redhayes Bridge

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and the University Streatham Campus/city centre. The E9 cycle route, between the Newcourt development area and the city centre, is part of the strategy but is less developed.

Improved cycle infrastructure will also help to meet the aims and objectives of national and local plans and strategies.

The main drivers for development of cycle routes in Exeter are:

- Providing opportunities to access the growth to the east and south of the city by cycle and on foot. This would allow residents from these areas to have improved access to education, employment, retail and leisure facilities.
- Healthy living – obesity has become one of the UK's major public health issues, with the number of people who are obese doubling in the last 25 years.
- Devon's population is ageing – walking and cycling can contribute to physical and mental health and wellbeing among the older population by providing an active means of independent mobility.
- Improved cycle infrastructure will increase the appeal of the city, making it more resilient to growth and allowing residents to be safer, healthier and better connected.
- The routes will provide facilities for all pedestrian and mobility impaired users. Allowing improved access to a range of facilities of a network of higher quality routes.

3. Consultations / Representations / Technical Data

Consultation for the proposed Exeter cycle routes began in early 2015 with initial discussions held with various stakeholders, including Local Members, Exeter City Council and Exeter Walking and Cycling Steering Group. Feedback on the initial route concepts and locations was positive and in June 2015 the Cabinet Member for Highways Management & Flood Prevention approved wider public consultation to be undertaken.

Three public consultation events, advertised via a press release and on social media, were held across the city in July 2015. Consultation material and a feedback form were also made available on the Devon County Council 'Have your say' website.

Proposals for the location and layout of the E3 (Redhayes Bridge to city centre), E4 (Redhayes Bridge to University) and E9 (Newcourt to city centre) cycle routes were presented to members of the public. Emphasis was placed on the routes being in their very early stages of development and feedback was requested so that all options and issues could be considered at an early stage, to help shape the plans before any detailed design was undertaken. Approximately 150 people attended the events over the three days and 224 responses were received.

In general, members of the public were very supportive of Devon County Council investing in additional cycle infrastructure across the city. Many responses supported routes away from the main arterial roads that would encourage increased use amongst less confident cyclists, for example, young children and elderly people.

Two aspects received particular attention. Firstly, existing commuter cyclists did not consider the plans to be ambitious enough and would prefer to see 'Dutch style' cycle infrastructure implemented, e.g. high-quality bike lanes on major roads. Secondly, the section of route proposed to run within Higher Cemetery, close to the southern boundary, was considered inappropriate.

This consultation resulted in a report and presentation to Exeter Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC) in November 2015 in which the authority's proposals were put

forward, along with alternative options presented by a group of cycle enthusiasts. The report produced for the HATOC summarised the public consultation feedback that was received for the proposed E3, E4 and E9 cycle routes.

The options presented to the HATOC by the group of cyclists offered a more radical approach to cycle infrastructure. However, this included removal of parking, narrowing of vehicle carriageway, narrowing of footpaths and acquiring land from residential properties to achieve superhighways along Topsham Road and Pinhoe Road. Such proposals are similar to the infrastructure introduced in London and a number of cities in Europe. This radical approach to cycle infrastructure was considered by the design team at an early stage, but rejected given the potential for significant disruption to pedestrians, residents, bus users and motorists as a result of the historic road network constraints.

The HATOC noted the consultation responses and gave in principle support to progress further design of the original proposed routes. However, consultation feedback has been taken into consideration and plans have been altered to address comments and concerns where possible.

Initial discussions have been held and are ongoing with Exeter City Council and Local Members to discuss options for a route passing around the edge/alongside Exeter Higher Cemetery, rather than through it.

4. Proposal

The location of the proposed E3 and E4 cycle routes are shown in Appendix I. They are part of a wider network of cycle routes proposed across Exeter but have been identified as the priorities for development. The E9 cycle route, between the Newcourt development area and the city centre, continues to be part of this project.

The original routes presented at public consultation were categorised as 'strategic' or 'primary' routes. Due to constraints on the E3 and E9 these routes are difficult to make particularly fast and direct. These are now considered as 'secondary' routes. The routes are located within a dense urban area and will therefore provide attractive links for shorter journeys, with improved access for local residents to schools, local shops, etc.

The E4 cycle route is considered a 'primary' cycle route between new developments to the east of the city, e.g. Pinhoe, Monkerton, Cranbrook and the Science Park, and the city centre. Due to its location and minimal road crossings, it is easier to make it fast and direct. It is therefore anticipated that people will largely use it to get from the outskirts of the city to the centre and vice versa. This route will complement the Exe Estuary Trail, which provides a similar type of route to the south of the city.

5. Financial Considerations

A Growth Deal 3 Expression of Interest has been submitted to the LEP for £3.4M of funding for implementation of the cycle routes, available over the period 2017/18 to 2019/20. £1.65M S106 developer contributions have been secured for walking and cycling improvements and are expected to provide the required match funding.

Although high level costings have been undertaken on preliminary designs for the cycle routes, at this stage there are no detailed construction costings available. Further work is required to continue consultation, detailed design, planning applications and land acquisition so that costings can be finalised. As the scheme now progresses to detailed design, funding will be allocated from the DfT Local Transport Plan grant.

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6. Environmental Impact Considerations

Proposals that increase the attractiveness of cycling compared to other modes are likely to help reduce the growth of car use and reduce carbon emissions.

Environmental designations and constraints will be considered throughout the project, from inception to construction. Surveys will be undertaken as necessary and environmental impacts will be prevented where possible. Where impacts are unavoidable mitigation measures will be put in place.

7. Equality Considerations

Where relevant to the decision, the Equality Act 2010 Public Sector Equality Duty requires decision makers to give due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other prohibited conduct;
- advance equality by encouraging participation, removing disadvantage, taking account of disabilities and meeting people's needs; and
- foster good relations between people by tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

taking account of age, disability, race/ethnicity (includes Gypsies and Travellers), gender and gender identity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, pregnant women/new and breastfeeding mothers, marriage/civil partnership status in coming to a decision, a decision maker may also consider other relevant factors such as caring responsibilities, rural isolation or socio-economic disadvantage.

This may be achieved, for example, through completing a full Equality Impact Needs Assessment/Impact Assessment or other form of options/project management appraisal that achieves the same objective.

In progressing this particular scheme/proposal, an Impact Assessment has been prepared which has been circulated separately to Cabinet Members and also is available on the Council's website at: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/impact/>, which Members will need to consider for the purposes of this item/meeting.

The proposals meet equality requirements in numerous ways, for example, they will:

- Provide improved routes not just for cyclists but also other non-motorised users.
- Allow people who use wheelchairs or people pushing prams to have easier access across side roads, which may improve their experiences of travelling around the city.
- Serve a number of schools and will thereby offer safer routes for young people.
- Enable disadvantaged groups to gain access to training and employment opportunities.
- Enable people of all ages to enjoy being active for leisure and sport.
- Improve access to help people better connect with their communities and engage in social activities.
- Contribute to physical and mental health and wellbeing among the older population by providing an active means of independent mobility.
- Help to tackle health problems, such as those associated with obesity.

8. Legal Considerations

The lawful implications/consequences of the proposals have been considered and taken into account in the preparation of this report/formulation of the recommendations set out above.

As part of the design process there will be a need to consider what Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs), i.e. signage / restrictions, may be necessary and what legal rights of access may be permitted over the routes, which may involve use of a combination of roads and paths, including paths through Exeter City Council parks.

When making a TRO it is the County Council's responsibility to ensure that all relevant legislation is complied with. This includes Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 that states that it is the duty of a local authority, so far as practicable, secures the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic and provision of parking facilities.

Maintenance considerations will also need to be taken into account.

9. Risk Management Considerations

Further work is required to investigate the feasibility of some of the more challenging elements of the proposals. Further workshops are planned to progress the project to the detailed design stage.

10. Public Health Impact

The scheme is subject to a Road Safety Audit. A Feasibility/Stage 1 Safety Audit has been undertaken, however, this will need to be revisited due to changes in the proposals following consultation.

There are several academic papers and research that demonstrate the clear links between increased cycling and improved public health, including lower death rates and lower risk of heart problems and depression.

11. Options/Alternatives

Numerous options for the cycle routes have been considered but their location has largely been steered by the following:

- Sites of new housing and employment developments.
- Existing infrastructure constraints.
- Areas that do not currently have high quality cycle routes near to them.

Designers did consider solutions along the main arterial routes, i.e. Pinhoe Road and Topsham Road, at an early stage. These were rejected due to the city's historic road network and difficulties in introducing cycle infrastructure without removing bus lanes, on-street parking or carriageway space and purchase of large sections of private land. There were concerns that if they could not be delivered along their entire length this would result in fragmented cycle routes and, therefore would not cater for the target audience (i.e. less confident cyclists).

The alternative of 'doing nothing' would not meet the requirements of a modern city with a choice of transport modes providing alternative means of travel for non-motorised users. Furthermore, the Authority has targets to reduce the risk of premature death and

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encouraging citizens to adopt more healthy lifestyles, including cycling and walking to work or for leisure purposes, will help achieve these public health outcomes.

12. Reason for Recommendation/Conclusion

There is a need to encourage more people to take up cycling and walking to support increased physical activity and the continued growth of the city. The proposals offer all user groups better quality cycling routes, away from the busy radial road corridors and provide linkages between densely populated residential areas and key work, education and leisure destinations.

Progression of scheme development throughout financial year 2016/17 is required to ensure construction plans are available when funding becomes available for delivery. The final E3 and E4 cycle routes will be presented to Cabinet prior to construction.

Dave Black
Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment

Electoral Divisions: All in Exeter

Cabinet Member for Highways Management & Flood Prevention: Councillor Stuart Hughes
Cabinet Member for Economy, Growth and Cabinet Liaison for Exeter: Councillor Andrew Leadbetter

Strategic Director, Place: Heather Barnes

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

Contact for enquiries: Jamie Hulland

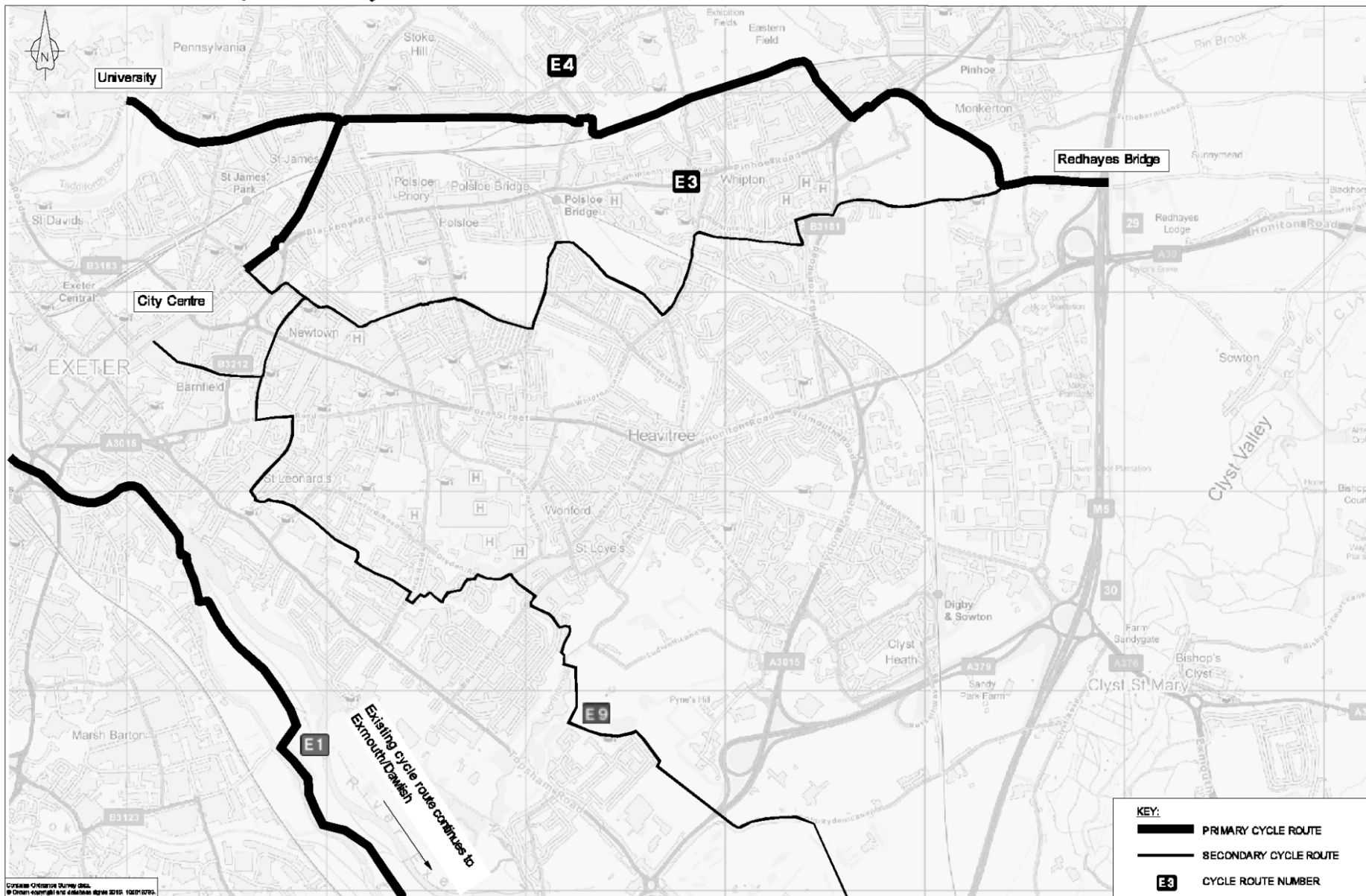
Room No. AB2, Lucombe House, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QD

Tel No: (01392) 383000

Background Paper	Date	File Reference
1. Exeter HATOC – Exeter Strategic Cycle Routes Consultation	9 Nov 2015	PTE/15/59
2. Impact Assessment	20 May 2016	https://new.devon.gov.uk/impact/

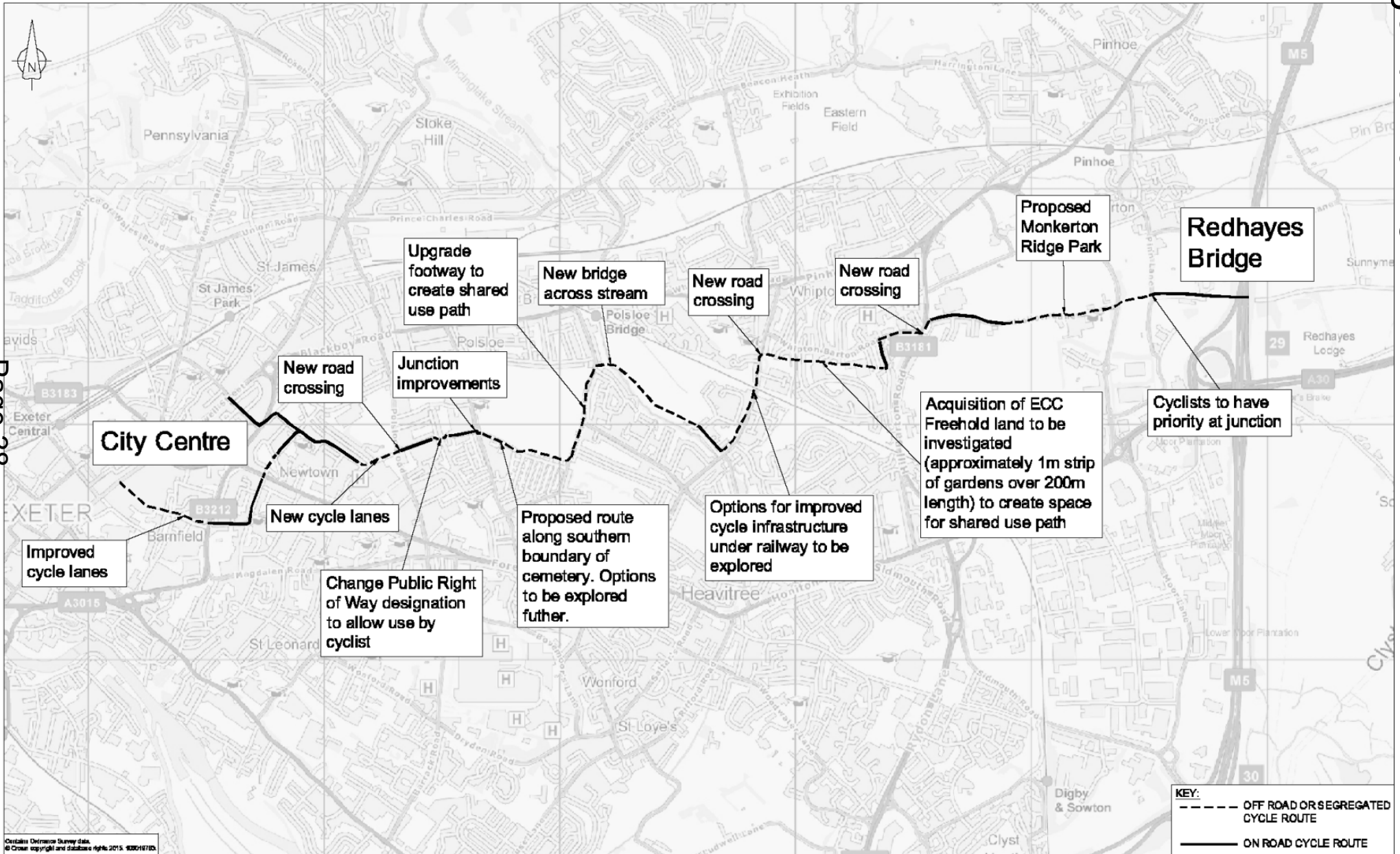
jh200516cab Exeter Cycle Strategy
hk 06 250516

Network of Proposed Cycle Routes

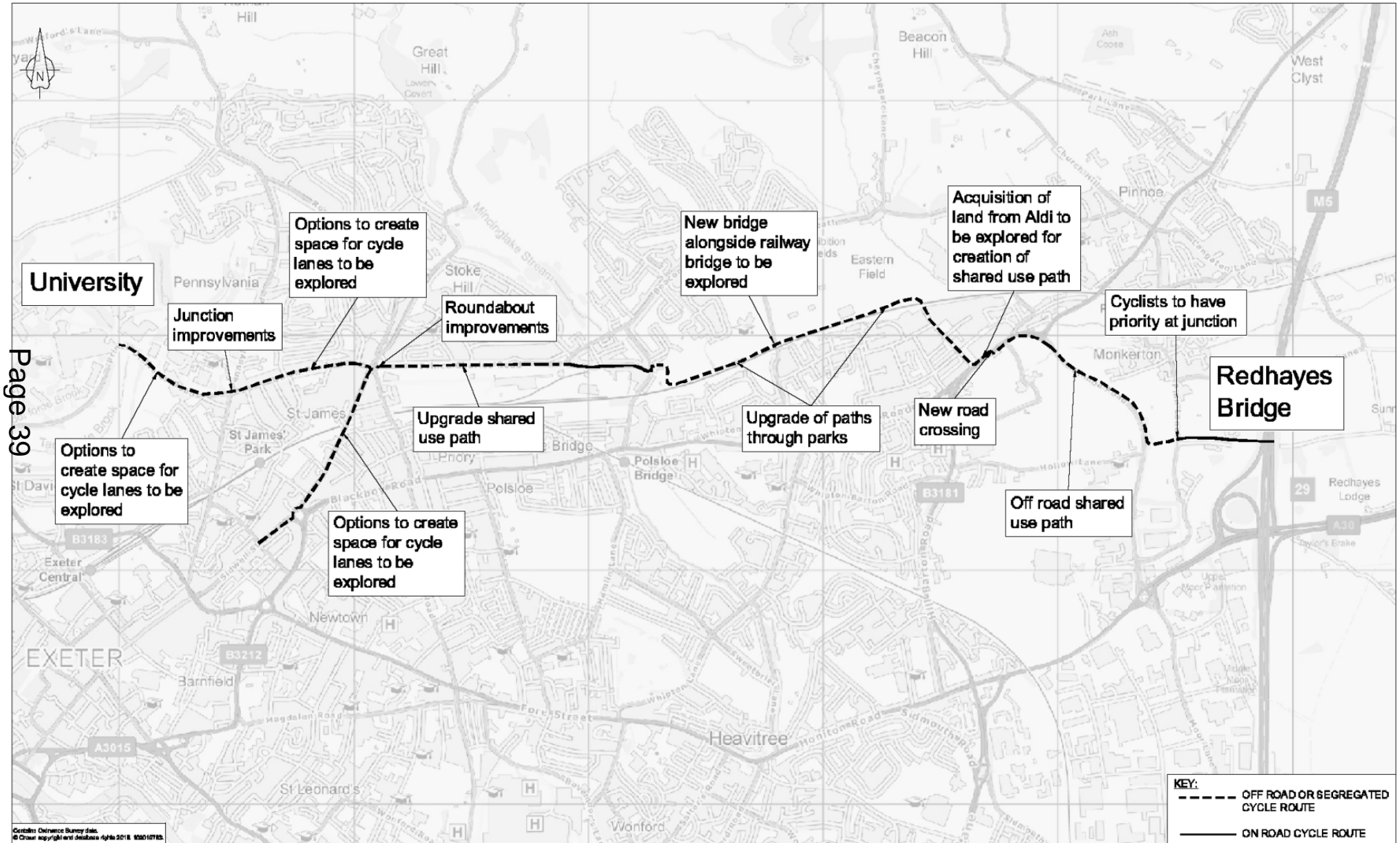


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E3 cycle route proposal



E4 cycle route proposal



PTE/16/28

Cabinet
8 June 2016

Roundswell Phase 2 A39 Pedestrian Cycle Bridge

Report of the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Cabinet (and confirmation under the provisions of the Council's Constitution) before taking effect.

Recommendations:

- (a) that the scheme design shown in Appendix I as drawing number (B.M.(5074)_1000-P5) be approved for construction at an estimated cost of £2.855m;
- (b) that the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth and relevant local County Council Members, be given delegated authority to make minor amendments to the scheme design.

1. Summary

This report seeks approval to construct a new cycle/pedestrian bridge crossing over the A39 at Roundswell in Barnstaple.

2. Background

Roundswell is located to the west of Barnstaple with direct access onto the strategic A39/A361 North Devon Link Road corridor. The existing Roundswell area lies to the north of the A39 roundabout junction. To the south lie numerous villages and the main route from Barnstaple to Torrington. Recent developments include the St Johns Garden Centre. North Devon Council's (NDC) Brynsworthy Environment Centre (BEC) where a large number of staff work and where the majority of NDC's public meetings are held. These developments require a safe pedestrian and cycle crossing. It is considered that whilst an at grade signalled crossing is feasible, it would be highly undesirable given the likely impact on traffic on the A39. An at grade crossing would also have a significantly higher casualty rate than a bridge option given the 60mph speed limit.

Land to the south west of the bridge is allocated as a new 6.1 hectare employment site in the draft North Devon and Torridge Local Plan to 2031. This is expected to create over 300 jobs. The plan also supports further expansion of this site to the west if this is required in the Local Plan period. This development south of the A39 requires good walking and cycling connectivity to the rest of Barnstaple and areas to the west. This proposed scheme for a pedestrian and cycle bridge is aimed at providing a safe and attractive link to support economic growth.

The scheme is the second phase of planned infrastructure development in the Roundswell area. The first phase constructed in 2014 enlarged and improved the capacity of the main A39 Roundswell Roundabout. Phase 1 also incorporated the construction of a second compact roundabout on the B3232 to provide access to the southern employment sites. The third phase has been submitted for potential growth deal funding to deliver a Park & Change car park facility within the southern development land and the associated estate highway infrastructure to connect this facility to the B3232 junction. The third phase of bidding also

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incorporates a North Devon Council project for an Innovation Centre building within the employment land to the south west of the roundabout offering targeted employment opportunities for the region.

The innovation centre will be at the heart of the business park extension proposals, creating new flexible start-up and innovation workspace. It is aimed at providing direct and intensive business support and creating a focal point for new employment that is targeted at businesses within the Smart Specialisation sectors of Advanced Engineering, Marine, Energy and Business Services. These are identified as having high growth potential in this area.

3. Proposal

The scheme is shown in Appendix I as drawing number (B.M.(5074)_1000-P5).

The scheme provides a bridge crossing between Devon County Council owned employment land located to the north and south of the A39.

The scheme incorporates shared path links from the bridge between the B3232 Torrington Road to the south and Fishleigh Road to the north. The scheme provides cycling and walking facilities linking current employment sites to the north and the approved St Johns development site to the south.

A 10m wide landscaping strip has been specified to the south of the A39 with high level planting to screen the access structure and future Park & Change car park area from the A39 corridor. This will complement the existing mature landscaping found to the north of the A39 that will screen the northern access structure from the western A39 approach into the town.

The scheme incorporates access ramps and steps to access the bridge. These structures are required to achieve the required height of bridge crossing over the A39 and to maintain equality of access for all road users.

The bridge span has been specified to accommodate any future widening opportunities for the A39 corridor to dual carriageway standard.

The bridge provides a direct link for non-motorised users across the heavily trafficked A39. The bridge will directly link to the south with future proposals for a Park & Change site serving the west of the town. To the north the site will link to future proposals for a core east to west cycle corridor across the town between major development sites that are identified in the emerging Local Plan.

4. Consultations, Representations and Technical Data

The crossing is referred to within the Draft Joint North Devon & Torridge Local Plan Policy for BAR10 employment sites. The draft Plan has been subject to extensive local public consultation between 2012 and 2015.

Details of the bridge scheme have been subject to public and stakeholder consultation through a planning application. The landscaping element of the scheme has been slightly amended based on advice from North Devon District Council. A decision on the planning application is expected shortly following a formal re-consultation on the revised plans.

The wider strategy for the A361/A39 corridor including this junction on the A39 has been subject to public consultation by Devon County Council during 2014 titled "A Gateway To Northern Devon". The consultation sought comments from all parishes along the corridor

and specific presentations were made to local members and councillors in the Barnstaple and Bideford areas. There was widespread support for improvements to the A39/A361 route including key junction improvements like Roundswell and for improving road capacity between Bideford and Barnstaple.

A business case to match fund the scheme delivery has been supported by the Local Transport Board of the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

5. Financial Considerations

The estimated scheme cost for the scheme is £2.855m. Growth Deal funding of £2m has been secured. £0.25m will be funded through developer contributions, £0.017m in prior years has been funded from Local Transport Plan grant and £0.588m will be provided from the Growth Deal Infrastructure corporate match funding pot. The contract for construction of the scheme will be subject to a design and build tender process.

6. Environmental Impact Considerations

Ecological studies have been undertaken as part of the feasibility design stages and the environmental impact of the bridge scheme has been considered as part of the Planning Application. The bridge scheme forms part of the key infrastructure for the development of the southern employment site. An Environmental Impact Assessment is being prepared for planning submission for the full site.

7. Equality Considerations

Where relevant to the decision, the Equality Act 2010 Public Sector Equality Duty requires decision makers to give due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other prohibited conduct;
- advance equality by encouraging participation, removing disadvantage, taking account of disabilities and meeting people's needs; and
- foster good relations between people by tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

taking account of age, disability, race/ethnicity (includes Gypsies and Travellers), gender and gender identity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, pregnant women/ new and breastfeeding mothers, marriage/civil partnership status in coming to a decision, a decision maker may also consider other relevant factors such as caring responsibilities, rural isolation or socio-economic disadvantage.

This may be achieved, for example, through completing a full Equality Impact Needs Assessment/Impact Assessment or other form of options/project management appraisal that achieves the same objective.

In progressing this particular scheme/proposal, an Impact Assessment has been prepared which has been circulated separately to Cabinet Members and also is available on the Council's website at <https://new.devon.gov.uk/impact/>, which Members will need to consider for the purposes of this item.

8. Legal Considerations

Land for the scheme is under the ownership of Devon County Council. The scheme provides a link between adopted highway to the north and south of the A39. The contract for construction of the scheme will be subject to a design and build tender process. There are no other legal considerations at this time.

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9. Risk Management Considerations

This proposal has been assessed and all necessary safeguards or actions have been taken to safeguard the Council's position. Key risks have been identified through a quantified risk assessment. Financial consideration of risk management has been incorporated into the scheme estimate.

10. Public Health Impact

Provision of high quality walking and cycling links to employment and retail developments south of the A39 will contribute to improving public health by encouraging sustainable travel to work.

Providing a bridge crossing over the busy A39/A361 strategic corridor will remove conflict between vulnerable road uses and A39 traffic. This will have a significant long term impact on casualty reduction and public health.

The provision of a bridge crossing will reduce congestion at the key Roundswell junction that the introduction of a signalised crossing would introduce. This will contribute towards minimising the impact of future traffic growth on the historic built environment of the town and have a positive benefit for future air quality and green travel within the town.

11. Options/Alternatives

The scheme replaces previously identified proposals for a signalised crossing facility on the A39. A signalised crossing was linked to development of the approved St Johns site to the south east of the roundabout.

A range of different crossing options and bridge alignments have been considered during the feasibility design for this scheme. Within the constraints of land, funding, and with the need to safeguard future options for widening of the A39/A361 corridor, the proposed scheme offers the best compromise to deliver sustainable transport links between land to the north and south of this road.

12. Reason for Recommendation/Conclusion

The scheme for a bridge takes advantage of external funding opportunities to deliver a higher standard of crossing facility that will provide long term benefits for both road safety and traffic congestion. Forward funding the early delivery of key highway infrastructure will increase the viability of developing new employment sites in the town and help to accelerate growth in the local economy.

Dave Black
Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment

Electoral Divisions: Fremington Rural; Chulmleigh & Swimbridge

Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth: Councillor Andrew Leadbetter

Strategic Director, Place: Heather Barnes

Agenda Item 9

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

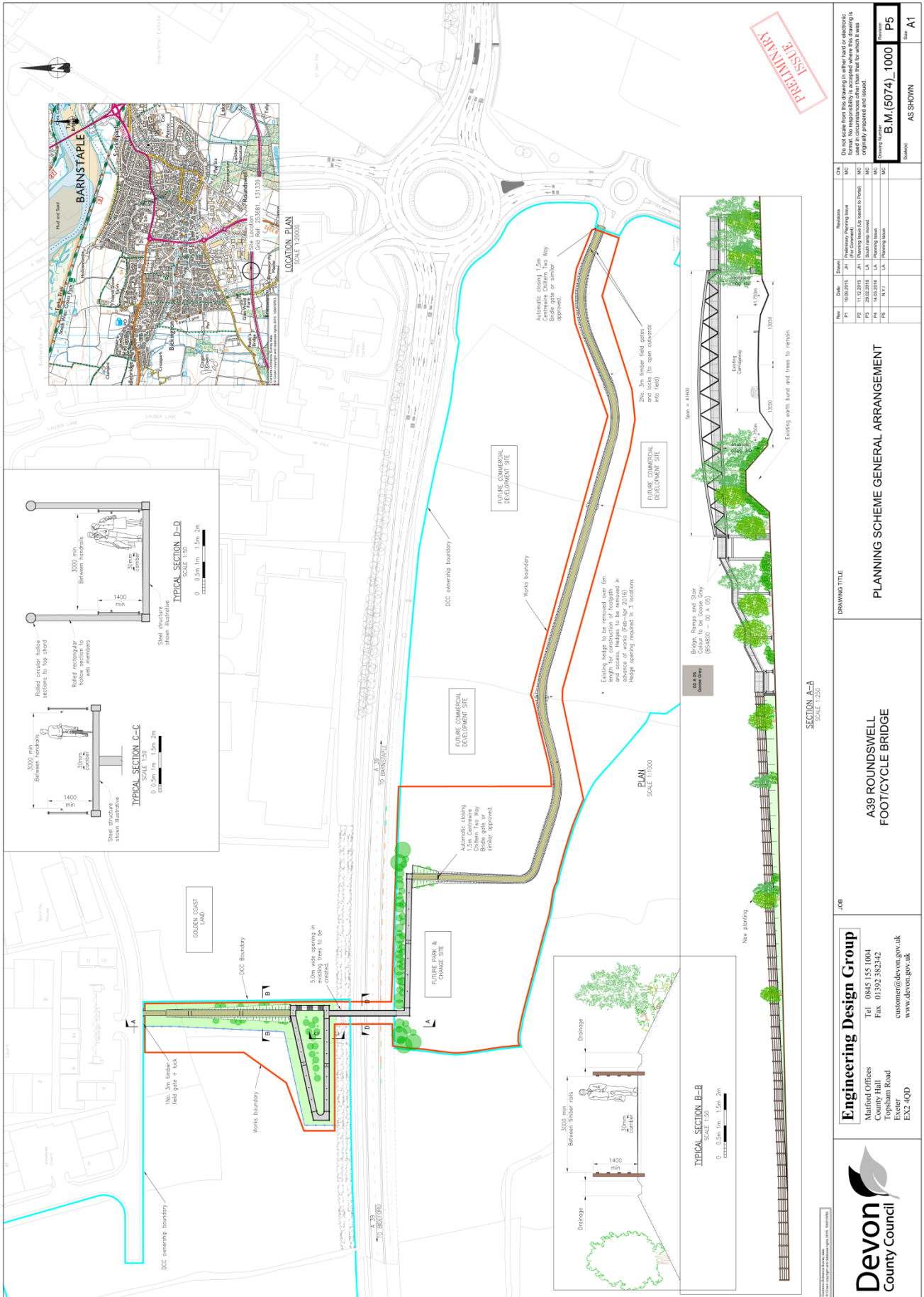
Contact for enquiries: James Anstee

Room No. Lucombe House, County Hall, Exeter. EX2 4QD

Tel No: (01392) 383000

Background Paper	Date	File Reference
1. Impact Assessment	20 May 2016	https://new.devon.gov.uk/impact/

ja200516cab Roundswell Phase 2 A39 Pedestrian Cycle Bridge
hk 06 260515



Rev	Date	Author	Checked
P1	10.05.2015	JH	Professionally Approved
P2	11.02.2016	JH	Planning team (to be based for Party)
P3	29.02.2016	LA	Local views received
P4	11.03.2016	LA	Planning team
P5	14.11	LA	Planning team

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Drawing Number	B.M.(5074)_1000
Revision	P5
Scale	AS SHOWN
Sheet	A1

Engineering Design Group Mansford Offices County Hall Topsham Road Exeter EX2 4QD Tel 0845 155 1004 Fax 01392 382342 customer@devon.gov.uk www.devon.gov.uk	Devon County Council
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JOB	PLANNING SCHEME GENERAL ARRANGEMENT
DRAWING TITLE	A39 ROUNDSWELL FOOTCYCLE BRIDGE
SECTION A-A	SCALE 1:50

NOTICES OF MOTION

Report of the County Solicitor

Recommendation: that consideration be given to any recommendations to be made to the County Council in respect of the Notices of Motion set out hereunder having regard to the relevant factual briefing/background papers and any other representations made to the Cabinet.

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The Notices of Motion submitted to the County Council by the Councillors shown below have been referred to the Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order 8(2) - for consideration, reference to another committee or to make a recommendation back to the Council.

A factual 'Briefing Note/Position Statement' prepared by the relevant Head of Service is also included where appropriate or available, to facilitate the Cabinet's discussion of each Notice of Motion.

### **(A) SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL SERVICE (Councillor Connett)**

*'To ensure the school crossing patrol service is protected and continues to operate, this council will ensure:*

- 1. all crossing patrol vacancies are promptly filled and not left vacant to help with 'vacancy management savings';*
- 2. No school crossing patrol site will be deleted from the council's establishment without a report presented first to Place Scrutiny and Cabinet.*
- 3. An annual 'state of the service' report is presented each February detailing the number of school crossing patrols, any vacancies in the preceding year, how long they have been vacant and the robust steps taken to fill posts; and*
- 4. where it can be shown there is a proven need the Council will look favourably on new applications for a school crossing patrol'.*

### **Briefing Note/Position Statement from the Head of Planning Transportation & Environment**

School Crossing Patrols (SCPs) are essentially a road crossing facility, one of the many traffic management options available to highway engineers, alongside facilities such as traffic calming, central refuges, zebra and signal controlled crossings, recognising the need in certain circumstances for additional safety measures to ensure children's safe passage to school. SCPs will remain as part of this Authority's overall provision of safer crossing facilities. For new developments and areas where the network is subject to change the aim would be that, wherever possible, the road infrastructure is designed to accommodate appropriate crossing facilities for all users. In new developments therefore it is a priority to ensure that appropriate facilities for children crossing the road are incorporated in the physical highway infrastructure.

As with any organisation employing large numbers of staff there is a rolling process of vacancies and recruitment. Filling SCP vacancies is a challenging and time consuming process. The hours and remuneration offered appeal only to a narrow demographic. In addition to finding more effective means of reaching potential applicants schools will continue to be offered the opportunity of training volunteers to provide temporary cover until a permanent post holder is found.

Outcomes of SCP service provision are examined in an annual report on child casualties which includes a section specifically examining SCP sites. This report is published when collision data

# Agenda Item 10

from the previous year is verified by Department for Transport. From July 2016 this report will include a statement on vacancy management for the SCP service and will be available to Place Scrutiny Committee for annual examination.

The primary criteria for determining need for existing and potential SCP sites is the technical assessment developed by Road Safety GB and widely adopted as the standard by English highway authorities. Whenever vacancies arise at sites that do not automatically match the required criteria, and where new sites are proposed by schools, a report will be prepared for consideration by the appropriate Member or Officer. Reports will include technical appraisals for sites with recommendations for action that will include any casualty prevention measure pertinent to the nature and scale of injury risk observed.

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(B) WHITE PAPER 'EDUCATION EXCELLENCE EVERYWHERE'/ACADEMISATION OF SCHOOLS (Councillor Hannan)

'This Council notes that the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Skills, the Deputy Leader of the Council and the County Councillors Network along with many District and County Councils, of all political colours, have made statements that oppose various aspects of the changes to our education system proposed in the White Paper 'Education Excellence Everywhere'.

The Council welcomes the decision of the Secretary of State for Education to abandon plans to force all of England's schools that are still maintained by their local authorities to become academies. However, it regrets that some schools may still be forced to convert, including those in local authorities where academies are in a large majority, those in authorities whose maintained schools are deemed to be failing overall to meet a minimum performance threshold, and those seen as struggling or failing to improve sufficiently.

The Council remains concerned about other aspects of the White Paper and the government's continued commitment to full academisation, with regard to:

- 1. School exclusions – giving schools from which excluded pupils originate the responsibility to fund AP (alternative provision such as placement in a pupil referral unit) and to continue to ensure the quality of their education. This makes informal exclusion more likely and encourages schools not to admit vulnerable children especially those with behaviour problems. There will also be problems providing for pupils already in referral units and for those who move with their parents to Devon from other local authorities.*
- 2. Further academisation making it more difficult for local authorities to ensure 'sufficiency of AP in their area' without the power to direct academy/free schools and without the AP funding which they currently use to commission pupil referral units as Devon does via Schools Company.*
- 3. The lack of acknowledgement of the considerable additional costs falling upon local authorities in managing the transition of schools to academy status, and through having continuing responsibility for school transport and safeguarding.*
- 4. The impact on small rural schools that could suffer 'a spiral of decline' if the networks to support them provided through the local authority were removed.*
- 5. The diminution of the role of local authorities in undertaking school monitoring (holding schools to account) and providing support for school improvement.*
- 6. The impact on vulnerable children with local authorities continuing to have a statutory responsibility for their education, but with very few powers to help them to fulfil that duty with more schools becoming academies.*

Therefore, this Council confirms its opposition to forced academisation and joins with others in expressing its concerns about other aspects of the White Paper, including those mentioned above, and will write to the Secretary of State for Education and to all Devon MPs to make its position clear and to ask for the proposed changes to be reconsidered'.

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[NB: The briefing note/position statement in respect of this and the following Notice of Motion is set out below]

(C) **WHITE PAPER 'EDUCATION EXCELLENCE EVERYWHERE'/ACADEMISATION OF SCHOOLS (Councillor Greenslade)**

*"County Council congratulates all those who have successfully lobbied and persuaded the Government to abandon its plans to force all schools to become academies. However County Council continues to have concerns that some schools may still be forced to become academies and resolves to support the LGA, CCN and others in ensuring all schools, which are not yet academies, have the opportunity to take their own "democratic" decisions about their status and not be forced by Government dictate to convert."*

**Briefing Note/Position Statement from the Head of Education & Learning**

The Education White Paper 'Education Excellence Everywhere' outlines proposals for the future education responsibilities of local authorities. These are:

- (a) Ensuring every child has a school place;
- (b) Ensuring the needs of every vulnerable child are met;
- (c) Acting as champions for all parents and families.

The White Paper contains little detail about how these responsibilities can be delivered without access to information gained through a breadth of school improvement work or 'real time' data relating to education progress or the inclusion of vulnerable students.

Following the Secretary of State's retraction of forced academisation it was announced that high performing local authorities (such as Devon) could continue with a school improvement role if the majority of schools were maintained and the local authority has the capacity to secure their school improvement responsibilities. This is at odds with the White Paper's determination to break 'geographical monopolies' unless a local authority's education autonomy is diminished within a regional model accountable to the Regional Schools Commissioner.

A consultation process is underway to consider proposals for a new national funding formula for schools. This proposes the removal of all local authority school improvement funding from September 2017 even though responsibility for maintained schools is likely continue for the length of this parliament. The Education Support Grant (ESG) will also be cut (£700million Nationally) which means a reduction from £140 in 2014/15 to £77 in 2016/17. This funding is allocated to local authorities for each student in a maintained school. The ESG currently funds core services such as Education Welfare, Educational Psychology, specialist advisory services (e.g. hearing and visually impaired) and some School Improvement functions. De-delegated funding and contributions from the Delegated Schools Grant (DSG) for core education services will also cease from 2017. De-delegated funding is worth almost £4m per annum and currently supports our work to find missing children, the Gypsy and Roma Education Service, The Ethnic Minority Achievement Service and the Primary Behaviour Support Service. Schools would be expected to buy some of these services but other service areas will be included in funding within the Central Services Block.

There is very little information about the size of the proposed new Central Services Grant but the DSG currently contributes around £6m towards services that support vulnerable children.

There is an additional cost to local authorities when undertaking the transfer work for academies. This is usually between £12k and £15k per school but can be more. The local authority would need to find between £3m - £5m to fund the process of academisation for its remaining 262 schools. The DfE fully funds the legal costs of conversion for individual schools and also pays the legal fees for the Diocese, but not those of the local authority.

Both Notices of Motions raise concerns about the ethics of forcing schools to become academies. Whilst this policy position has been formally revoked, it is clear that additional

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financial incentives for schools, alongside the reduction in funding for local authority school improvement functions, means that schools may have little to gain by staying as maintained schools. Despite The White Paper's strong message of greater autonomy for schools it is also evident that autonomy, including the right to remain as a local authority school, will be based on successful performance against increasingly rigorous measures. Greater discretion and more powers allocated to the RSC means that schools can be directed to convert if they are judged as underperforming or their local authorities are unable to support them.

Devon has a strong relationship with its maintained schools and a good working dialogue with academies. There is a sense of local identity which provides the foundation for sharing responsibility for Devon's children. This is already being challenged through the DfE's brokerage of cross County border MATS and regional arrangements.

Councillor Hannan's Notice of Motion highlights the proposal that schools will retain responsibility and the cost of students at risk of exclusion. In the past year, we have seen a 42% rise in the number of children leaving school to be home educated. A number of students moving to EHE are at risk of exclusion. Readmission to school has proved very difficult, particularly when these students are in years 10 or 11. It is likely that we will see more students without school places and for whom reintegration will be very difficult to achieve. The local authority will not be able to direct academies to admit vulnerable children and it is more likely that these young people will miss out on education whilst their cases are referred to the Education Funding Agency (EFA). We do not yet know if the local authority will have allocated funds to support these children to access education or if this will become another pressure on core funding or the High Needs Block.

In order for local authorities to act as champions for all parents and families it is important to be able to access real time data and information about children including their educational progress, attendance or access to a full curriculum. This potentially places children at risk if academies do not report to the local authority.

Councillor McInnes, as lead member, has sent three briefing letters to local MPs so that they are aware of the impact of the White Paper and new funding proposals. Devon's ability to support its maintained schools and safeguard children in all settings, will be tested under new proposals within both the White Paper and the Fair Funding Consultation.

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(D) FLOOD ALLEVIATION IN DEVON (Councillor Greenslade)

"The County Council welcomes the recent report and conclusions by Cabinet in respect of flood alleviation in Devon: however the County Council is concerned that real needs will not be matched by the investment required to deliver within the time frame needed to protect communities from increased flood risk and therefore resolves that the County Council mount a sustained lobbying programme for increased funding from Government for flood alleviation seeking support from the LGA, CCN and Devon MP's."

Briefing Note/Position Statement from the Head of Planning, Transportation & Environment

The national mechanism available to secure funding for flood defences is through Defra's 6 year investment programme, administered by the Environment Agency (EA). The total budget made available by Government for this programme for the period 2015-2021 is £2.3 billion, with a key objective to reduce the risk of flooding to over 300,000 properties. In most cases, this national funding must be supplemented by local contributions, sourced either through the Local Levy, administered by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC), or from other public bodies (e.g. Devon County or District Councils), businesses or landowners etc.

The process for achieving such funding is complex and lengthy, usually taking several years, based on appropriate surveys, option development and a detailed scheme appraisal. Indicative funding allocations are based on a calculation of the scheme benefits, which is

heavily focused on the number of properties with a reduction in flood risk. As a result, a rural county like Devon has difficulty in achieving the required partnership score for many of its small communities, when compared to more urbanised areas. This has been raised by Officers on numerous occasions to Government officials when the opportunity has arisen.

Notwithstanding this difficulty, the County Council's Flood and Coastal Risk Management team has developed a strong programme of schemes through Defra's 6 year programme, with a current indicative allocation of over £2.6million; a further £60.9million will be drawn down through the Environment Agency's own scheme delivery in Devon (e.g. Exeter Flood Defence Scheme). This is anticipated to increase in coming years, based on the flood studies currently being progressed by this Authority and by the EA.

Since 2012 property flooding has been experienced in over 200 locations across Devon, most involving just a small handful of homes or businesses. This highlights the real issue of having so many rural communities at risk of flooding and the inability to generate sufficient scheme justification to draw down funding from the national pot. Scheme consideration and preparation for this large number of flood risk areas is also a challenging and time consuming exercise. Wherever possible, the County Council works with the Parish and/or District Council to assist with the local delivery of minor improvements or flood resilience measures, with the financial commitment for this evident within the programme recently approved by Cabinet. This Authority has shown an impressive and ongoing commitment to the funding of the dedicated staff team and their programme of studies and projects, at a time when many other Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) have reduced their budgetary provision.

Addressing existing and future flood risk priorities across Devon requires a far wider range of measures, described through the Devon Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The planning system has an essential role in avoiding new development in areas at significant risk of flooding and in ensuring that surface water drainage is handled in a sustainable manner. There is also a current focus on natural flood risk management techniques, such as ponds, swales and woody dams, and wider land management initiatives, such as targeted crop planting, de-compaction of soils and changes to farming practices.

Increasing Defra's investment programme could provide very positive longer-term benefits for communities at risk in Devon, as part of the wider strategy for addressing flooding, but does not offer a quick fix. Of equal significance is the revenue funding provided by Government to the Environment Agency and LLFAs, to ensure their capacity to progress flood defence schemes and secure their ongoing maintenance.

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**(E) BARNSTAPLE PARK & RIDE (Councillor Greenslade)**

*"Following the loss of the Park & Ride service for Barnstaple, County Council asks Cabinet to urgently find the ways and means of reinstating a Park & Ride service for Barnstaple at the earliest opportunity."*

**Briefing Note/Position Statement from the Head of Planning, Transportation & Environment**

Commercial Park and Ride bus services from the Park School Park and Ride site ceased operations from March 2016. The service was not commercially viable with the current level of patronage. The County Council explored the options for a tendered replacement service but these were considered to be too expensive.

The site is expected to be lost to the expansion of Park School within the life of the current draft North Devon and Torridge Local Plan to 2031. It currently also has 30 Park and Cycle lockers for cycle trips to the town centre and hospital. These are well used and particularly useful for employees at these locations. There is also demand at the site for parking for Park School and Rock Park. Options for the interim management of the site are being investigated including a function as a long stay car park.

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The draft Local Plan offers the opportunity to reconsider the provision of Park and Change services in the light of planned site allocations and the growth of areas such as Ilfracombe and Bideford as well as Barnstaple itself. Park and Change includes, depending on the individual site, options for Park and Cycle and Park and Car Share as well as Park and Bus. Three sites are planned in the long term:

- to the west of the town on the A39 at Roundswell for significant commuter demand from Bideford and Torrington and for Petroc college;
- to the east of the town at Westacott (Whiddon Valley) for traffic travelling from the A361 North Devon Link Road and South Molton, and
- to the northwest of the town on Braunton Road for traffic from, Ilfracombe, Braunton and the A361 Western Bypass into the town centre and potentially the Hospital.

The new sites are designed to work in conjunction with existing bus services and/or those that are expected to serve the new developments, i.e. not a dedicated Park and Ride service. This is considered to be a viable model for a town the size of Barnstaple that minimises the need for future County Council revenue subsidy given the major pressure on budgets.

The proposed site at Roundswell is at an advance stage of development as part of the wider employment site proposals, subject to securing planning permission and external funding as part of a Growth Deal bid to the LEP. There is potential to expand the site in the future subject to funding and planning approval. The Cabinet will - elsewhere on the Agenda for this meeting - have considered the proposal for the adjacent pedestrian and cycle bridge which will serve the Park and Change as well as the employment sites. This has already secured Growth Deal funding.

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This Report has no specific equality, environmental, legal or public health implications that will not be assessed and appropriate safeguards and/or actions taken or included within the detailed policies or practices or requirements in relation to the matters referred to herein.

JAN SHADBOLT

[Electoral Divisions: All]

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

Contact for Enquiries: R Hooper
Tel No: 01392 382300 Room: G31

<u>Background Paper</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>File Reference</u>
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Nil

FARMS ESTATE COMMITTEE

28 April 2016

Present:-

County Councillors

Councillors C Chugg (Chairman), G Gribble (Vice-Chair), J Brook, A Dewhirst, R Julian and R Rowe

Co-opted Members:-

C Latham (Tenants Representative)

Apologies:-

Councillors J Berry

* **1** **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 19 and 22 February be signed as correct records.

* **2** **Pollinators and Neonicotinoids (Cabinet Minute *13, 13 April 2016)**

(Councillor Hook attended in accordance with Standing Order 25(2) and spoke to this item in support of the action now proposed).

The Committee noted that the Cabinet had on 13 April 2016 asked this Committee for its view on prohibiting *'the use of neonicotinoids on land under the control or ownership of the County Council including existing and new tenants of the County Farms Estate'* as part of a wider Pollinators Action Plan, the production of which had been agreed, in principle, with a decision on the final content of the Plan to be determined by Cabinet in light of this Committee's views.

The Committee also considered the Joint Report of the Head of Planning Transportation and Environment and Head of Business Strategy and Support (PTE/16/22) setting out the relevant issues appertaining to the Farms Estate in more detail.

Whilst there might be practical implications of using alternative insecticides, including costs, the Tenants' Representative confirmed that to the best of his knowledge there was limited use, if any, of neonicotinoids within the Estate. Its use in the main was on oil seed rape and maize which was not, in the case of the former, grown by any of the current tenants. Maize was grown on the Estate particularly by dairy tenants. These insecticides were, apparently, only available under licence which he further understood was not easily obtained, presumably in light of current concerns nationally. Overall he felt that prohibiting the use of neonicotinoids would make little difference to the operation of the Estate but agreed it was important to undertake the pending consultation so that a better understanding of the facts could be ascertained before any decisions on the future use or otherwise of currently legally permitted neonics is made.

The Head of Business Strategy and Support reminded the Committee of the legal arrangement that existed between the County Council and existing tenants noting that the County Council could not unilaterally and retrospectively prevent existing tenants from using otherwise legally available insecticides including neonics.

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2

FARMS ESTATE COMMITTEE
28/04/16

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Dewhirst, **SECONDED** by Councillor Brook and

RESOLVED

(a) that a tenants' survey be undertaken, urgently, to better understand the use of neonicotinoids on the County Farms Estate and while the survey is being carried out the opportunity be taken to gain up-to-date information that may help inform a stage 1 feasibility study into the potential for anaerobic digestion energy production on the Estate;

(b) that the results of the survey be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee to be held now on Tuesday 28 June 2016 at 10.00am (instead of 26 July 2016) in order that the future use of legally permitted neonicotinoids on the Estate can be discussed and a response made to the Cabinet at its meeting on 13 July 2016;

(c) that potential positive opportunities be explored to address pollination issues on the County Farms Estate through the Pollinators Action Plan for presentation to Cabinet, in line with the objectives of the Farms Estate Strategic Review.

* 3 **Revenue Budget 2015/16 (Provisional Outturn) and 2016/17 Budget**

The Committee received the Report of the County Treasurer (CT/16/46) on the County Farms Estate Revenue Monitoring (Provisional Outturn) Statement 2015/16 and draft Revenue Budget 2016/17, noting that:

(a) the target surplus for 2015/16 was now set at £337,000, with provisional outturn figures showing a net surplus of £325,000; and

(b) the draft budget for 2016/17 included a revised target surplus of £362,000.

* 4 **Capital Monitoring 2015/16 (Provisional Outturn) and draft Capital Programme 2016/17**

The Committee received the Report of the County Treasurer (CT/16/47) on the County Farms Estate Capital Monitoring 2015/16 (Provisional Outturn) and draft Capital Programme 2016/17, noting that:

(a) the provisional outturn stood at £1,284,000, out of a capital programme for 2015/16 of £2,074,000;

(b) there was a net underspend of £19,000, **after** allowing for slippage to 2016/17 of £771,000;

(c) the approved Capital Programme for 2016/17 included schemes totalling £1,671,000.

* 5 **Management and Restructuring Issues**

The Committee considered the Report of the Head of Business Strategy and Support (BSS/16/06) on County Farms Estate management and restructuring issues.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Brook, **SECONDED** by Councillor Gribble and

RESOLVED

(a) Land at Combefishacre Farm, Ipplepen

that 11.18 hectares or thereabouts of land at Combefishacre Farm, Ipplepen be advertised to let in internal competition between the tenants of Bulleigh Elms Farm, Ipplepen; Lomans Farm, Broadhempston; Fairfield Farm, Denbury; Coppa Dolla Farm; Denbury and Buckridge

Farm, Denbury on a five year Farm Business Tenancy commencing 25 March 2017, subject to terms being agreed;

(b) Higher Leigh Farm, Churchstow

(i) that the house buildings and 86.14 acres or thereabouts of land comprising Higher Leigh Farm, Churchstow be advertised to let to new entrants in the open market on a seven year Farm Business Tenancy commencing 25 March 2017 and terminating 25 March 2024 and as a mixed livestock enterprise expressly precluding the milking of dairy cows, subject to terms being agreed; and

(ii) that the additional 23.13 acres of adjoining land known as Part Combe Royal be let to the new tenant of Higher Leigh Farm under a consecutive series of 12 month Farm Business Tenancy Agreements, subject to terms being agreed, until such times as any development potential can be realised;

(c) Lower Chitterley Farm, Bickleigh

(i) that the tenant's early surrender of his Farm Business Tenancy of Lower Chitterley Farm, Bickleigh, effective 25 March 2017, be accepted by the landlord;

(ii) that in the first instance the house buildings and 149.91 acres or thereabouts of land comprising Lower Chitterley Farm, Bickleigh be advertised to let internally to existing tenants as a potential progression opportunity on a Farm Business Tenancy for a term of up to fifteen years commencing 25 March 2017, subject to terms being agreed; and

(iii) that should no existing tenants apply for or be offered a tenancy of Lower Chitterley Farm, Bickleigh the house buildings and 149.91 acres or thereabouts of land be advertised to let to new entrants in the open market on a seven year Farm Business Tenancy commencing 25 March 2017 and terminating 25 March 2024, subject to terms being agreed;

(d) Lomans Farm, Broadhempston

that the offer from a neighbouring special purchaser be accepted and that 0.012 ha of Part OS 4115 be declared permanently surplus to the operational requirements of the Estate and sold.

* **6** **Actions taken under delegated powers**

The Committee noted the actions taken by the Chairman of the Cabinet and the Head of Business Strategy and Support, in accordance with Part 3 of the County Council's Constitution.

* **7** **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information relating to, and which was likely to reveal the identity of, tenants and information relating to the financial or business affairs of tenants and the County Council and, in accordance with Section 36 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, by virtue of the fact that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

* **8** **Holdings and Tenancies etc.**

(An item taken under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 during which the press and public were excluded, no representations having been received to such

Agenda Item 12

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FARMS ESTATE COMMITTEE
28/04/16

consideration under Regulation 5(5) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.)

The Committee considered the Report of the Head of Business Strategy and Support (BSS/16/07) on requests for landlord's consent to tenants' proposed improvements.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Brook, **SECONDED** by Councillor Gribble and

RESOLVED

(a) New Form Farm, Rockbeare

that landlord's consent be granted for a 60' x 30' and 12' to eaves painted steel portal framed general purpose shed with stoned apron for machinery and general storage at New Ford Farm, Rockbeare subject to the physical improvement being written down in value to £100 on a straight line basis over a life expectancy of 25 years;

(b) Topshayes Farm, Aylesbeare

that landlord's consent be granted for a 105' x 30' and 14' to eaves painted steel portal framed general purpose storage and calf rearing shed to replace two life expired tenants' timber frame and clad buildings at Topshayes Farm, Aylesbeare subject to the physical improvement being written down in value to £100 on a straight line basis over 10 years (this shortened write down period being a direct requirement of the head landlord).

***DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 2.15 pm and finished at 3.15 pm

SCHEDULE OF CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE PREVIOUS MEETING		
Cabinet Remit/Officer	Matter for Decision	Effective Date
Resources & Asset Management	Approval to variations in the capital programme for 2016/17 and other property matters	1 and 2 June 2016
Children, Schools & Skills	Approval to Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of land required for Trinity Church of England VA Primary School, Newcourt, Exeter	20 May 2016

The Registers of Decisions will be available for inspection at meetings of the Cabinet or, at any other time, in the Democratic Services & Scrutiny Secretariat, during normal office hours. Contact details shown above.

In line with the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, details of Decisions taken by Officers under any express authorisation of the Cabinet or other Committee or under any general authorisation within the Council's Scheme of Delegation set out in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution may be viewed at <https://new.devon.gov.uk/democracy/officer-decisions/>

