

## CABINET

9 September 2020

Present:-

Councillors J Hart (Chair), R Croad, A Davis, R Gilbert, S Hughes,  
A Leadbetter, J McInnes and B Parsons

Members attending in accordance with Standing Orders 8 and 25

F Biederman, A Dewhirst, B Greenslade, R Hannaford and C Wright

\* 534

### Minutes

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2020 be signed as a correct record.

\* 535

### Items Requiring Urgent Attention

There was no item raised as a matter of urgency.

\* 536

### Announcements

There was no announcement by the Chair at this meeting.

\* 537

### Petitions

There was no petition received from a Member of the Public or the Council.

\* 538

### Question(s) from Members of the Council

In accordance with the Cabinet Procedure Rules, the Leader and relevant Cabinet Member responded to 2 questions from a Member of the Council on flooding in Barnstaple and highways drains and drainage and the Covid-19 test and trace system.

The Leader and Cabinet Member asked Councillor Greenslade to send any supplementary questions via email.

*(A copy of the questions and answers are available on webpage for this meeting and any supplementary questions and answers may be observed through the [webcast of this meeting](#)).*

\* 539

### Budget Monitoring - Month 4

(Councillors Biederman, Dewhirst, Greenslade and Hannaford attended remotely in accordance with Standing Order 25(2) and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and

Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and spoke to this item).

The Cabinet considered the Report of the County Treasurer (CT/20/65) outlining the Budget Monitoring Position at Month 4, circulated prior to the meeting in accordance with regulation 7(4) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Report outlined the financial position and forecast for the Authority at month 4 (end of July) of the financial year and it was estimated that budgets would overspend by £4.5 millions. Whilst it was still early in the financial year, if the overspend materialised, it could be accommodated by not making the 2020/21 planned contribution to reserves of £4.5 millions.

The Dedicated Schools Grant funding shortfall, relating to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), was forecast to be £26.8 millions. In line with Department for Education guidance, it was proposed this would be carried forward to future years.

Government had put in place a number of grant funding streams to help support Local Authorities during this difficult period, due to the pandemic, the most significant being the Local Authority Covid Support Grant, totalling £41.43 millions. Currently, there was an overcommitment of just over £4 millions against the grant, but if pressure continued and further funding was not forthcoming there would be a need to meet the overspend from reserves.

In terms of service areas, Adult Care and Health Services were forecast to overspend by just under £2.9 millions, Children's Services were forecasting an overspend of £2.5 millions (not including the projected funding shortfall of £26.8 millions on Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND)).

Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste were forecasting an overspend of £500,000 at month 4 and Communities, Public Health, Environment and Prosperity (COPHEP) were forecasting a breakeven position. Corporate Services were forecasting an overspend of just over £1 million, the result of deferred income and cost pressures within Legal Services.

Non-service items, which included capital financing charges, were forecast to underspend by £2.4 millions.

In terms of the approved capital programme, the year-end forecast was £159.5 millions, producing forecast slippage of £18.2 millions, mainly attributable to variations and programme delays in Planning and Transportation (£12.0 millions net slippage) which reflected the complexity of the major schemes within the service.

Cabinet noted that the Council had been asked to act as the Accountable Body for the Further Education Digital Skills Accelerator project (FEDA), which would see the investment by Devon Colleges of £2.3 millions in new capital equipment funded 50% by Growth Deal funding and 50% by Devon Colleges. Acting as Accountable Body meant that the County Council was appointed by the Partnership to exercise duties and responsibilities on their behalf, such as processing grant claims to the LEP and reimbursing Colleges for eligible expenditure. The Council would not incur any expenditure, other than administrative expenses for which it would be compensated.

The Report also highlighted the position in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak. Government had been making a series of ongoing policy announcements, initially at Budget 2020 which meant local authorities have had to respond quickly and understand their financial implications. The Report explained the grant funding streams in place to help support Local Authorities.

In summary, the level of uncertainty and pressures being faced by the public sector this year was greater than ever before. The projected forecast was welcomed but there remained significant far reaching risks associated with the impact of the pandemic, which could be financially destabilising.

The matter having been debated and other relevant factors as set out in the County Treasurer's Report and/or referred to above having been considered:

it was **MOVED** by Councillor Hart, **SECONDED** by Councillor McInnes, and

**RESOLVED**

(a) that the month 4 budget monitoring forecast position be noted; and

(b) that Devon County Council act as the Accountable Body for the further Education Digital Skills Accelerator project (FEDA).

\* **540**     **Annual Market Sufficiency Report - Adult Social Care Report**

(Councillors Biederman, Dewhirst, Hannaford attended remotely in accordance with Standing Order 25(2) and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and spoke to this item).

The Cabinet considered the Report of the Joint Associate Director of Commissioning (ACS/20/126) outlining the Market Position Statement (Adults), circulated prior to the meeting in accordance with regulation 7(4) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

At its meeting on 15 January 2020, Cabinet required (minute 448) that a Market Sufficiency Report be presented annually (in September). The Report also detailed the initial impacts of COVID19 on adult social care markets and set out actions to respond to them.

In terms of the strategic context, the pandemic had reinforced the importance of the adult social care sector to the safety and well-being of people and Cabinet noted that Devon's health and care system had performed well throughout the pandemic, with support to providers and a strong platform to address future challenges. Work continued on new challenges, especially preparations for winter and assessing future risks.

A strong care workforce was paramount and the Report highlighted the recent 'Proud to Care' campaign which had resulted in approximately 150 new recruits as well as the Council's increased investment into the pay of domiciliary care workers and commitment to review pay and conditions in care homes.

The Report set out 5 priorities which included Care Homes, Regulated (Domiciliary) Personal Care, Replacement Care, Day Opportunities and Supported Living with each section outlining the key risks and issues facing that sector.

Section 4 of the report outlined the work in relation to transforming the independent sector workforce and what a transformed social care workforce might look like in the future.

In summary, the Market Position Statement, along with the Sufficiency Statement, were key tools for analysis of the marketplace and delivering plans, both countywide and at a local level. Without a vibrant market, the Council would find it difficult to fulfil statutory obligations. Providers were significant partners as well as contractors and the Council continued to work with them to adapt the profile of supply and assist with planning.

Cabinet noted that the impacts and uncertainties arising from Covid-19, added to the issues that had already been present in the market, would be a major challenge for some years to come.

The matter having been debated and the other relevant factors (e.g. financial, consultations, risk management, equality, legal considerations and public health impact) set out in the Joint Associate Director's Report and/or referred to above having been considered:

it was **MOVED** by Councillor Leadbetter, **SECONDED** by Councillor Hart and

## RESOLVED

(a) that the impacts of COVID-19 on the adult social care market, together with associated financial risks (as outlined at sections 3 and 5 of the Report), be taken into account as part of budget preparation;

(b) that the actions being taken to address sufficiency and to remodel key sectors of the market (outlined at Section 3 and Appendix 1), be endorsed; and

(c) that detailed proposals be prepared, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Care and Health, to lead a high profile campaign locally and nationally to secure a social care workforce that delivers the high quality care and support to which the Council aspires, through improved terms and conditions and other measures (as outlined in Section 4).

*(The Impact Assessment referred to above may be viewed alongside Minutes of this meeting and may also be available on the [Impact Assessment Webpages](#)).*

### 541 **Proposed Extension of Shared Services Arrangement for Trading Standards**

(Councillors Biederman, Dewhirst and Hannaford attended remotely in accordance with Standing Order 25(2) and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and spoke to this item).

The Cabinet considered the Report of the Head of Economy, Enterprise and Skills (EES/20/3) on the proposed extension of Trading Standards Services, circulated prior to the meeting in accordance with regulation 7(4) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Report summarised a proposal for the renewal of the legal agreement to the joint Devon County Council, Somerset County Council and Torbay Council Shared Trading Standards Service for a further ten years from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. It also proposed an extension of the Joint Service to include Plymouth City Council, the Full Business Case of which could be made available on request. The previous Somerset agreement had been approved pursuant to Minute 200 of the County Council, 24 April 2013 and the Torbay agreement pursuant to County Council Minute 98, 27 April 2017.

The Report outlined the background to the shared service agreements with Somerset County Council and then Torbay Council in 2017 and the current arrangements including funding contributions.

It then outlined the proposed arrangements for a Joint Trading Standards Service covering Devon, Somerset and Torbay and being extended to include Plymouth. This included staffing proposals for the Plymouth staff (8.29 FTEs, but 9 individuals) to TUPE transfer to Devon County Council on 1 April 2021. The functions to be transferred across from each partner authority to Devon County Council were listed in Appendix 1 of the Report.

The funding arrangements would be similar to those currently in place but adjusted to include Plymouth Trading Standards Service, however, the Joint Service Review Panel had agreed that 3 years was an appropriate length of time at which future budgets should be set, balancing operational stability with uncertain funding pressures in the future.

The Joint Service would maintain its current offices in Devon, Somerset and Torbay and would also retain a presence in Plymouth. It was not anticipated that any staff would be required to relocate and no redundancies were proposed as a result of the merger.

The benefits of the merger were outlined in terms of a more efficiently delivery whilst still maintaining an acceptable level of service. It was unlikely that any significant level of saving could be achieved by the services operating individually, without impacting significantly on front-line service delivery. However, a number of non-financial benefits from a shared service could be realised and the Report outlined these in full such as greater resilience, professional expertise, "greater clout" in tackling major investigations, economies of scale, maintaining the ability of all four Councils to fulfil statutory obligations and greater efficiency in training and maintenance of staff competencies.

As in 2013 and 2017, the approval of the full Council was required to transfer those trading standard functions to be discharged by Devon County Council.

The Cabinet noted that staff had been kept informed throughout and formal consultation with Unions and relevant staff members of each Authority had been undertaken.

The Head of Service's Report included an impact assessment which highlighted there were no negative impacts relating to the proposals.

The matter having been debated and the options and other relevant factors (e.g. financial, risk management, equality and legal considerations and public health impact) set out in the Head of Service's Report having been considered:

it was **MOVED** by Councillor Gilbert, **SECONDED** by Councillor Hart, and

## RESOLVED

(a) that the proposed renewal of the current shared Trading Standards Service arrangement with Somerset County Council and Torbay Council for a ten-year period starting from 1 April 2021 be approved;

(b) that the proposed extension of the current shared service arrangement with Somerset County Council and Torbay Council for delivery of the Trading Standards Service to also include Plymouth City Council be further approved;

(c) that, accordingly, the Council approve the discharge of Plymouth City Council's Trading Standards functions as identified in paragraph 4 and Appendix 1 of this Report in accordance with s101 of the Local Government Act 1972 to be delegated to Devon County Council, recognising and accepting also

(i) responsibility for the specific delegations made to Devon County Council to support the transfer of the Relevant Functions, and

(ii) the need to extend the membership of the Trading Standards Joint Service Review Panel to include representatives of Plymouth City Council;

(d) that the Head of Economy, Enterprise & Skills be authorised to finalise and agree / amend the share service agreements with Somerset County Council, Plymouth City Council, and Torbay Council, and any other appropriate legal and financial agreements with Somerset County Council, Plymouth City Council, and Torbay Council in order for the proposed services to be provided by Devon County Council.

*(The Impact Assessment referred to above may be viewed alongside Minutes of this meeting and may also be available on the [Impact Assessment Webpages](#)).*

\* 542 **Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee - Virtual Meetings**

The Cabinet noted that in considering the matter of virtual meetings (an item raised under Standing Order 25) at its meeting on 24 June 2020 (Minute 185 refers), the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee had considered the merit in allowing flexibility to continue with virtual meetings. The Committee subsequently RESOLVED '*that the Cabinet be requested to write to Secretary of State to permanently change the law to enable virtual meetings to be a fixture of the effective running of local decision making for Local Authorities as this will support the most effective local decision making and action and further support green initiatives and carbon reduction*'.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Hart, **SECONDED** by Councillor McInnes, and

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet note the national conversations taking place in terms of the future of meetings and flexibility in moving forward and that Minute 534(a) of the Cabinet should be read in relation to this issue in response to the Notice of Motion from Council on 23 July 2020 relating to remote meetings.

**543**      **Notice(s) of Motion**

**(a) Virtual Meetings and their Future (Councillor Biederman)**

(Councillor Biederman attended in accordance with Standing Order 8 and Councillors Dewhirst and Hannaford attended remotely in accordance with Standing Order 25(2) and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and spoke to this item).

*‘That Devon County Council make a commitment to holding more virtual meetings, briefings and task groups post Covid-19. They have clearly been very successful, have made a huge saving to the Council in budgetary terms and they also help in the Council’s climate emergency aims, by reducing our carbon footprint. Council therefore asks the Procedures Committee to consider a Report on meetings in the future and what Committees, briefings and task groups could meet virtually.*

Members considered the Officer’s factual briefing note on the matter (CSO/20/14) which referred to the requirements of the Local Government Act (1972) on Councillor attendance, the legality of attending meetings remotely, the flexibility permitted by the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 which permitted remote attendance during the pandemic (until 7th May 2021), the Council’s meetings protocol and that a future Report would be prepared, detailing the financial implications as well as climate change and environment impact.

The Cabinet considered the recommendation before them and it was **MOVED** by Councillor Hart, **SECONDED** by Councillor McInnes, and,

**RESOLVED** that it be noted that the Council has committed to holding remote meetings for the remainder of the year. However, in light of the wider issues raised by the Motion in terms of budgets, climate change and the environment, the Procedures Committee be asked to produce a Report responding in full to the issues raised, including any national debates on this matter.



**(b) Diversity and Council Policy (Councillor Connett)**

Councillors Biederman, Dewhirst and Hannaford attended remotely in accordance with Standing Order 25(2) and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and spoke to this item).

*This notice of motion acknowledges the current situation facing underrepresented groups in Devon and seeks to support the work that is taking place UK wide to tackle racism and discrimination. Statistical data shows that individuals from Black Asian & Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities are underrepresented at every level in UK society, facing issues around social and economic mobility, and educational attainment, particularly affected by implicit racial bias and institutional racism.*

*Council recognises the contributions of individuals from BAME communities in society, business, and infrastructure across Devon both now and historically, and will not shy away from work which seeks to remove barriers, tackle prejudice and address inequality.*

*In doing so the council calls for:*

- *The review of Devon County Council's HR and Equalities practices and the inclusion of regular training for councillors and staff, to ensure the needs of under-represented groups are met through addressing poverty and encouraging economic and social mobility.*
- *Work with Schools, Academies, Trusts and educationalists in Devon to explore the prospect of making changes the curriculum to include BAME experiences, contributions, and the FACTs of History, throughout the year.*
- *Explore the possibility of an education transformation project in conjunction with schools that creates a suite of curriculum resources specific to Devon's history.*
- *Lobby Government to invest and resource changes to the curriculum across the UK through the support of organisations such as The Black Curriculum and via associated campaigns.*
- *An advisory board put in place linked to the Equality Impact Assessment for the Covid -19 recovery plan, to connect the experiences of BAME individuals within the community with the aim of driving forward positive change.*
- *Encourage County-based organisations to contribute to diversity and social mobility through reviewing the Councillor Locality Grant criteria to ensure it can include (but not exclusively); projects that contribute to addressing inequalities and raising educational attainment within under-represented groups.*

Members considered the Officer's factual briefing note on the matter (CSO/20/14) which referred to the Local Government Association's Equality Framework for Local Government to help Councils meet their obligations under the Equality Act 2010, mandatory equality training for staff, HR activities to improve the understanding of workforce diversity, training and development, work with community organisations, education and curriculum activities, recovery planning (pandemic) and an associated sub-group to consider impacts on people and groups and the use of locality budgets.

The Cabinet considered the recommendation now before them and the actions proposed and those already undertaken and all other relevant factors (e.g. financial, environmental, equality and public health impact).

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Hart, **SECONDED** by Councillor McInnes, and

**RESOLVED** that

*That Council be recommended to:*

*(a) Support current and planned activities which help to:*

- (i) Enable everyone in Devon to participate in, and contribute, to its society, economy, and communities;*
- (ii) Remove barriers; and*
- (iii) Tackle prejudice and inequalities.*

*(b) Request a peer challenge, based on the LGA "Local Government Equality Framework".*

*(c) Encourage all mechanisms that would increase of the diversity of Councillors.*

*(d) Support all Members to continue to actively engage with BAME people and organisations;*

*(e) Provides advice and support to schools on how they can support students understanding of BAME experiences, their history and contributions; and*

*(f) Notes that Members' Locality Budget Fund can be used to support the diverse needs of all local communities.*

**(c) Black Lives Matter (Councillor Wright)**

(Councillor Wright attended in accordance with Standing Order 8 and Councillors Biederman, Dewhirst and Hannaford attended remotely in accordance with Standing Order 25(2) and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and spoke to this item).

*This Council welcomes the peaceful protests against the murder of George Floyd at the hands of a police officer, including those organised in Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Exeter and Plymouth - and the way these have brought to light how this much of this country's wealth was built on slavery and other racial oppression.*

*This Council acknowledges the recent further pain caused to the BAME community, by the Windrush Scandal.*

*This Council acknowledges too, that the only way this deep historical wound can be healed is by people in high profile positions (especially politicians) proving that they are listening with compassion to the BAME community – and taking necessary action.*

*This Council resolves to pledge its support for the Black Lives Matter campaign by:*

- *taking a lead among public organisations in Devon to seek out opportunities to promote and celebrate the work in Devon by BAME people, both in the past and currently.*
- *Inviting every Devon County Councillor to:*
  1. *show leadership and support for people of colour in Devon, individually supporting the Black Lives Matter movement, using whichever public platform they feel most comfortable with;*
  2. *speak with people from the BAME community in their wards to determine what are the issues of concern for them - and take the necessary steps to resolve those issues;*
- *Writing to the Secretary of State for Education urging him to:*
  3. *review the primary school, GCSE and A Level national curriculum with a view to ensuring that the historical record of the British Empire is treated in a way which fully takes account of slavery, the actions and views of historical figures and other oppressive experiences of BAME people, many of whose descendants are now part of our community.*

4. *show compassion and understanding by starting a national debate led by the BAME community, which seeks to define racism, the impacts of it in today's society - and demonstrate how we can all help people of colour feel fully included and welcomed in the UK (this could be part of the current government review).*

5. *identify a Cabinet minister champion for the BAME community.*

- *inviting Devon town/parish/city councils to review any landmarks, street names or statues that implicitly celebrate slavery, with a view to clarifying their history, such as the historical plaque in Exmouth for slave trader, John Colleton, who also has three streets named after him in Exeter.*

*NB. Motion was created with students at The Kings School, especially young BAME people.*

Members considered the Officer's factual briefing note on the matter (CSO/20/14) which referred to the issues raised above but also celebration and engagement activities, the curriculum and education and the Local Government Association guidance on responding to requests for changes to place names and statues: <https://local.gov.uk/topics/community-safety/statues>, noting that street naming was a District Council responsibility.

The Cabinet considered the recommendation before them, the actions proposed and those already undertaken and it was **MOVED** by Councillor Hart, **SECONDED** by Councillor McInnes, and

**RESOLVED** that

*That Council be recommended to:*

- (a) Support Members to continue to find and take opportunities to promote and celebrate the role and work in Devon by BAME people past and present;*
- (b) Support and encourage Members to continue to engage with BAME people;*
- (c) Note that the streetnames etc are the responsibility of District Councils, however, should the County Council be involved in any such processes, the LGA guidance will be followed;*
- (d) Encourage Schools, Settings, DCC Babcock LDP to write a 'Position Statement' in reference to the Black Lives Matter campaign and post clearly on their website;*
- (e) Write to the Secretary of State for Education urging him to encourage schools to;*

- i. Capture the voice of children and young people and their responses to the Black Lives Matter movement;*
- ii. Ensure that the school environment and curriculum allows all students to see themselves reflected and included;*
- iii. Reflect on how they challenge historic and persisting racist ideas and to how they celebrate diversity.*

**(d) A Better Future For Local Government - Leadership and Finances  
(Councillor Hannaford)**

(Councillor Hannaford attended in accordance with Standing Order 8 and Councillors Biederman and Dewhirst attended remotely in accordance with Standing Order 25(2) and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and spoke to this item).

***Council Notes***

*Local Councils have seen a huge reduction of £16 billion in core grant from central Government over the last 10 years and this is now a critical tipping point.*

*In spite of this, in the face of the global pandemic, councils including Devon County Council have been proactively working with the NHS, Public Health England, blue light services, supporting forums, local community volunteers, and other agencies, through the Local Resilience Forum to keep people safe from Covid19.*

*DCC has brought and distributed personal protective equipment (PPE), and helped set up logistical operations with others, to deliver medicine and food across wide geographies, and make sure vulnerable and older people receive the care and support they need, and crucially keep our children safe.*

*We have yet to work through the long term impacts that this will have on Devon's economy, schools, health services, and the most vulnerable people – Devon's 20% poorest communities, those with long term disabilities and mental health issues, and our black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities.*

*In Devon we are now facing unprecedented levels of financial burdens unless the costs of dealing with the pandemic are properly reimbursed by central government.*

### **Council Believes**

*A new relationship must emerge between national, regional and local government that is based on central government's genuine belief that local is best. Our local response to the pandemic has demonstrated only local government working with its partners has the intimate understanding of our communities, places, people and services to do this effectively.*

*Let this be the 'new normal' a relationship between local and central government roles.*

*DCC and our local government partners must have the finance and ability to fully respond in this new environment and to the social, educational, public health and economic impacts of COVID-19, to find effective and efficient local solutions.*

*Councils have a significant opportunity and role to do things differently now in developing;*

- a sustainable net zero carbon economy working with the South West (HotSW) Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and business leaders*
- reliable broadband to the whole of Devon*
- sustainable transport and enhancing our cycling and walking infrastructure*
- an integrated social and health care system*
- agile and flexible working*
- skills for all ages.*
- significant investment in the supply of social and affordable housing*

### **Council Resolves**

*Devon County Council's approach for future actions must not only incorporate these seven key needs outlined but also seek more devolved powers. They must do this through representation to central government and our local members of parliament to acquire the necessary legislative and budgetary changes. Local government could then provide greater community leadership so that here in Devon we can better serve our people.*

Members considered the Officer's factual briefing note on the matter (CSO/20/14) which reported on the Local Government Ministers speech which referred to a "shift of power from Whitehall. The example of Covid-19 had underlined that a centralised state was not best placed to respond effectively to the challenges faced by local communities. It also highlighted the anticipated Devolution and Local Recovery White Paper and that Members would wish to study the contents before considering what actions should be taken to best meet the needs and interests of the people of Devon.

The Appendix to the Report outlined a number of achievements / work streams of the Council. For example, sustainable net zero economy, Broadband and Mobile Boost, Sustainable Transport, towards an integrated health and social care system, Skills and employment and social and affordable housing.

The Cabinet considered the recommendation before them and it was **MOVED** by Councillor Hart, **SECONDED** by Councillor McInnes, and

**RESOLVED** that

*That Council be asked to:*

*(a) Note the Reports contained within the appendix of the briefing report; and*

*(b) Will carefully consider the detail of any proposals in the forthcoming Devolution and Local Recovery White Paper when determining what actions it may wish to take to best meets the needs and interests of the people of Devon.*

\* **544** **Question(s) from Members of the Public**

There was no question from a Member of the public.

\* **545** **Minutes**

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

Devon Audit Partnership – 14 July 2020

Farms Estate Interviewing Committee – 27 July 2020

Farms Estate Interviewing Committee - 10 August 2020

\* **546** **Delegated Action/Urgent Matters**

The Registers of Decisions taken by Members under the urgency provisions or delegated powers were available for inspection on the [website](https://new.devon.gov.uk/democracy/officer-decisions/), in line with the Council's Constitution and Regulation 13 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. 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/>.

\* **547**      **Forward Plan**

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Cabinet reviewed the Forward Plan and determined those items of business to be defined as key and framework decisions and included in the Plan from the date of this meeting onwards, including the addition of the Devon Economic Recovery Plan, as highlighted at the meeting, reflecting the requirements of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 (The Forward Plan could be found at <http://democracy.devon.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=133&RD=0>).

**NOTES:**

1. *Minutes should always be read in association with any Reports for a complete record.*
2. *If the meeting has been webcast, it will be available to view on the [webcasting site](#) for up to 12 months from the date of the meeting*

**DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 10.30 am and finished at 12.10 pm