

CABINET – DECISION NOTICE

10 November 2021

Present:-

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

Members attending in accordance with Standing Orders 8 and 25

Councillors A Connett, C Whitton and M Wrigley (Remote Attendance)
Councillor R Hannaford (in person)

* 1

Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2021 be signed as a correct record.

* 6

Devon County Council's Vision, Ambition and Priorities: Our Strategy for 2021 - 2025

RESOLVED

(a) that the Council's vision, ambition, and priorities for 2021 – 2025 as set out on the webpages at [Devon County Council Strategic Plan 2021-2025](https://beta.devon.gov.uk/devoncc-plan/) (<https://beta.devon.gov.uk/devoncc-plan/>) be endorsed; and

(b) that the preparation and publication of an annual Council plan and progress report also be agreed.

* 7

Budget Monitoring - Month 6

RESOLVED

(a) that the month 6 budget monitoring forecast position be noted;

(b) that progress on the delivery of the Dedicated Schools Grant Management Plan be noted; and

(c) that the main points from the Spending Review 2021 also be noted.

* **8** **DCC Building Decarbonisation Scheme for approval**

RESOLVED

(a) that the £3.3m capital spend on the energy-efficiency retrofit of four corporate buildings be approved, made up of the Government Grant from Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme of £2.1m and the Council's Carbon Reduction Plan of £1.2m; and

(b) that the scheme for progression to construction be approved and delegated authority is given to the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport, to make minor amendments to the scheme details.

* **9** **Childcare Sufficiency Assessment - Annual Return**

RESOLVED that the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Report be welcomed and endorsed and arrangements made for the Report to be published on the Council's website and social media platforms.

* **10** **Teignbridge Highways and Traffic Orders Committee - Shaldon Road, Newton Abbot - Request for extension of 30mph speed limit**

RESOLVED

(a) that the speed limit remains at 40mph;

(b) that a review of visibility is undertaken from each of the junctions in this section and vegetation cutting undertaken where required;

(c) that a review of signing and road markings is undertaken and any changes or renewals identified is undertaken;

(d) that the situation be kept under review; and

(e) that the local Member explores setting up a specific Community Speed Watch group for the Shaldon Road area.

11 Notice(s) of Motion

(Councillor Hart declared a personal interest in this matter (a and b) by virtue of being in the holiday home business. Councillor McInnes declared a personal interest in this matter (a and b) by virtue of holding a share in a rental property. Councillor Gilbert declared a personal interest in this matter (a and b) by virtue of being owner and landlord of various local affordable properties. Councillor Connett declared a personal interest in this matter (a and b) by virtue of being the owner of a rental property and Councillor Wrigley by virtue of being the portfolio holder for housing at Teignbridge District Council)

(a) Supporting Devon Residents into Homes of Their Own (Councillor Connett)

RESOLVED

(a) that the County Council assess the potential for it to offer accommodation to new social and key workers to attract them to work for Devon County Council;

(b) that the County Council, as a member of Team Devon (Leaders and Chief Executives), propose to Team Devon that a Devon strategic housing taskforce be established to help draw together the work of existing pan-Devon housing partnerships and focus on tackling homelessness and improving the availability of affordable housing in Devon; and

(c) that the County Council, as a member of Team Devon (Leaders and Chief Executives), proposes to Team Devon that it write to Devon Members of Parliament asking them to support changes to legislation and policy to address the housing problems in Devon described in the Notices of Motion. Team Devon's letter to MPs should propose strengthening the criteria on how a property becomes liable for Business Rates instead of Council Tax. Owners of these properties should have to show that they are commercially letting the property and not just declaring them available for rent.

(b) Devons Housing Crisis (Councillor Hannaford)

RESOLVED that it is recommended:

(a) that the County Council assess the potential for it to offer accommodation to new social and key workers to attract them to work for Devon County Council;

(b) that the County Council, as a member of Team Devon (Leaders and Chief Executives), propose to Team Devon that a Devon strategic housing taskforce be established to help draw together the work of existing pan-Devon housing

partnerships and focus on tackling homelessness and improving the availability of affordable housing in Devon; and

(c) that the County Council, as a member of Team Devon (Leaders and Chief Executives), proposes to Team Devon that it write to Devon Members of Parliament asking them to support changes to legislation and policy to address the housing problems in Devon described in the Notices of Motion. Team Devon's letter to MPs should propose strengthening the criteria on how a property becomes liable for Business Rates instead of Council Tax. Owners of these properties should have to show that they are commercially letting the property and not just declaring them available for rent.

(c) School Uniform Costs (Councillor Hannaford)

RESOLVED that Council support the issues as raised and outlined in the Notice of Motion and accordingly;

- (a) writes to Devon MPs; and
- (b) that schools be reminded of the impending statutory guidance and ask that they take a proactive approach.

(d) Bovine Tuberculosis, Badgers and Vaccination (Councillor Bradford)

RESOLVED that Council be recommended to:

- (a) recognise the impact of Bovine Tuberculosis on cattle, wildlife, and the farming community in the County;
- (b) endorse good bio-security in the rural environment to reduce the risk of transmission of Bovine Tuberculosis through the continued promotion and dissemination of DCCs TB information packs for farmers;
- (c) endorse vaccination as an important part of any long-term approach to reducing the general prevalence of the disease, risk to cattle or wildlife and its impact in Devon; and
- (d) continue to assess the implications of the government's evolving strategy in relation to bovine TB and the resultant impact on the County Farms Estate.

* 14 **Minutes**

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

Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee - 14 October 2021

* 16 **Forward Plan**

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

* 17 **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 Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act namely, the financial and business affairs of the current provider of the services, and the Council disclosure of which is likely to inhibit the free and frank provision of advice and exchange of views for the purpose of deliberation or the effective conduct of public affairs.

* 18 **Highway Term Service Contract - Consideration of Extension**

RESOLVED

(a) that the Devon Highways Maintenance Term Service Contract held with Milestone Infrastructure be extended by three years to 31 March 2027 (the maximum permitted extension under the contract); and

(b) that the negotiation of the extension and any changes to the contract be delegated to the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste and the County Solicitor in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Highway Management.