

CABINET – DECISION NOTICE

26 September 2022

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 J Brazil, P Prowse and C Whitton

Councillor M Wrigley attended remotely

* 1

Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2022 be signed as a correct record.

6

Update on Race Equality Progress

RESOLVED

(a) that the progress on race equality made throughout 2022 be noted;

(b) that the planned next steps to further advance race equality and commit to a 'zero tolerance' approach to racism be supported; and

(c) that attendance at the elected Member Masterclass on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion 'Legal and Moral Duties' on 23rd November 2022 be encouraged.

* 7

Budget Monitoring - Month 4

RESOLVED

(a) that the month 4 budget monitoring forecast and the very challenging financial position faced by the Council be noted;

(b) that the immediate action being taken to safeguard the financial sustainability of the authority be supported;

(c) that the proposed reduction to Member Locality Budgets, as outlined in paragraph 3.4 be approved; and

(d) that the savings and additional income resulting from the Financial Sustainability Programme also be noted.

* **8** **Transport Capital Programme 2022/23 and 2023/24: Update and Proposed Allocation**

RESOLVED

(a) that budgets be allocated to the Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Block (LTP ITB) schemes in 2022/23 and 2023/24 as set out in Appendix 1 of the Report, noting the level of overprogramming planned;

(b) that the 2022/23 capital programme be increased by £4.576 million, with £2.652 million funded from other external grants, £0.474 million from external contributions and £1.451 million from developer contributions and to decrease the 2022/23 capital programme by £4.738 million due to rephasing of the Tiverton EUE budget. The schemes are listed in Appendix 1 of the Report; (c) that the 2023/24 capital programme be increased by £11.001 million with £3.234 million funded from other external grants, £5.967 million from external contributions and £1.800 million from developer contributions. This includes the rephasing of the Tiverton EUE budget. The schemes are listed in Appendix 1 of the Report;

(d) that £1 million LTP ITB from 2023/24 to 2022/23 be rephased; and

(e) that delegated authority be given to the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport and the Cabinet Member for Highway Management regarding amendments to the Integrated Block allocations.

* **9** **Civil Parking Enforcement: Changes to Parking Permits**

RESOLVED

(a) that the progress on the Residents Parking Permit Scheme be noted; and

(b) that the implementation of the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised be agreed, except for the recommended reduction in charge for Essential Visitor Permits, and amendments for Exeter Zone S1 and Sidmouth Zone A (as described in Section 4), noting the clarified the clarification that the lowest emitting vehicles (Electric and Ultra Low) (A) would be £35 for all permits.

* **10** **Fostering Friendly Policy**

RESOLVED that the Fostering Friendly Employer policy which supports Devon County Council employees who are also foster carers, be endorsed and adopted.

* 11 **Foster Carer Uplift**

RESOLVED

- (a) that the proposed uplift to the fees paid to Devon County Council's foster carers be approved, as outlined in section 3 of the Report;
- (b) that an initial investment of £136,000 in 2022/23 from reserves be agreed; and
- (c) that Cabinet further consider a base budget increase of £281,000 as part of the 2023/24 budget setting process.

12 **Notices of Motion**

(a) Building on Devon County Council Owned Brown-field Land to provide Homes for Devon (Councillor Wrigley)

RESOLVED that Council be recommended to;

- (a) note the number of affordable housing units across Devon which the Council's land has enabled over the past five years;
- (b) confirm that in the short to medium term (3-5 years) the Council does not have plans to dispose of County Hall;
- (c) endorse the approach to review the use of DCC assets as part of the Council's financial sustainability programme to identify opportunities for the provision of (in particular) DCC key worker accommodation;
- (d) note the continuing work of the Devon Housing Task Force and DCCs involvement in this; and
- (e) support the inclusion of strategic DCC farm land in relevant local plan allocations (including land at Markham's and Manor Farm) as part of the Council's work to support housing provision across the County whilst ensuring that farm holdings remain viable and where possible land is replenished (subject to financial resources being available) to maintain the Farms Estate at c10k acres.

(b) Impact of Changes to Pension Age (made at short notice) on Women Born in the 1950s (Councillor Hannaford)

RESOLVED that Council be recommended to ask that the Leader of the Council writes to each of the Devon Members of Parliament and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions supporting the July 2021 findings of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman; highlighting the impacts on women in Devon and urging the Government to offer compensation as a matter of urgency.

**(c) Sewage Discharges and Impacts on Wildlife and Public Health
(Councillor Bailey)**

(Councillor Hart declared an interest in this item by virtue of an ongoing dispute with South-West Water and left the room during the debate)

RESOLVED that as reflected by this Notice of Motion, it is recommended that Council:

(a) recognises the unacceptable extent of storm overflow discharges into Devon's watercourses and coastal waters and the huge public concern relating to these and the wider impacts of water pollution on public health and wildlife; and

(b) urges all those with a specific role, including South West Water, the Environment Agency, Ofwat and central government, to pursue relevant action to adequately address this problem.

* **14** **Minutes**

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

Devon Audit Partnership – 12 July 2022

* **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.